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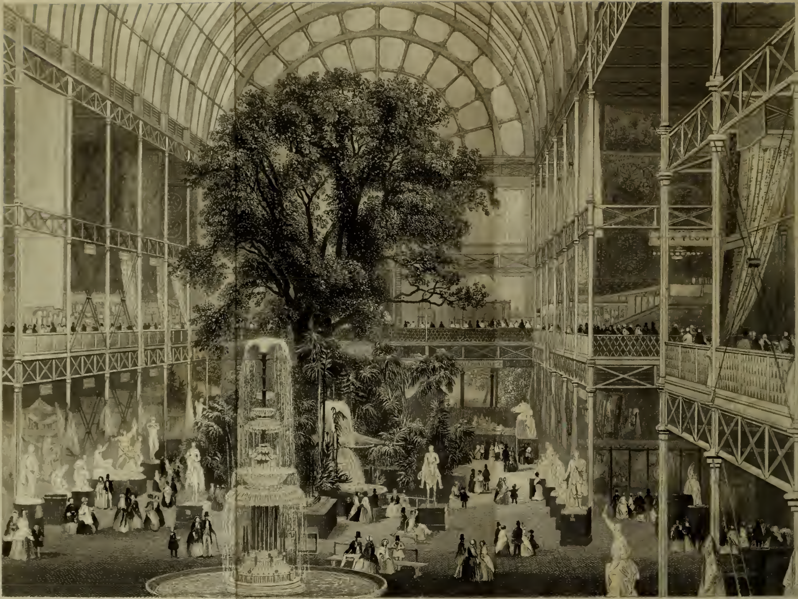

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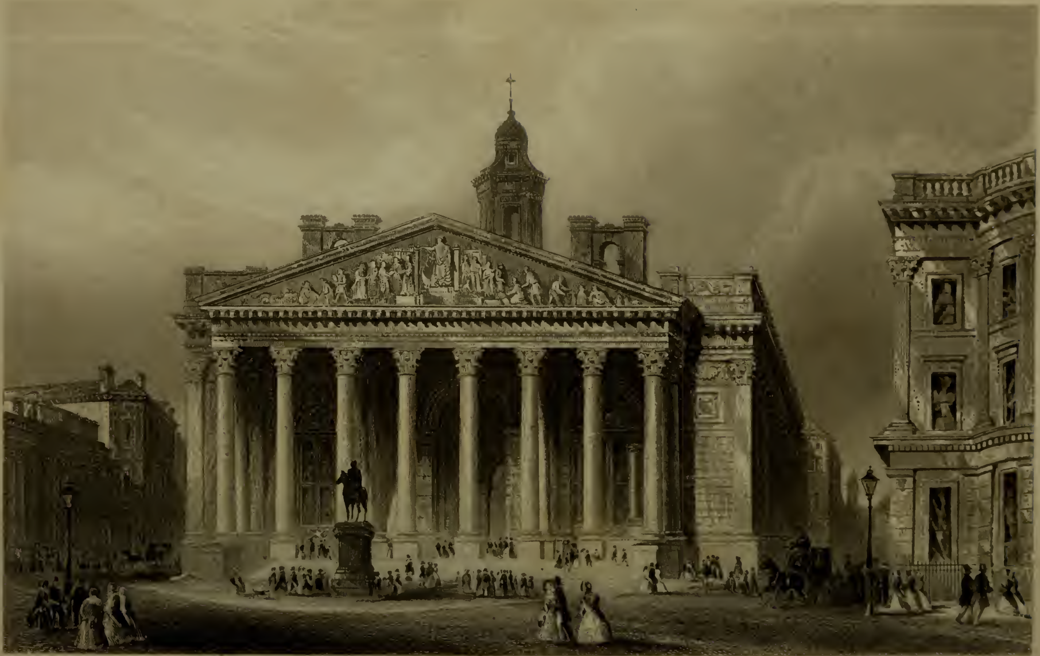

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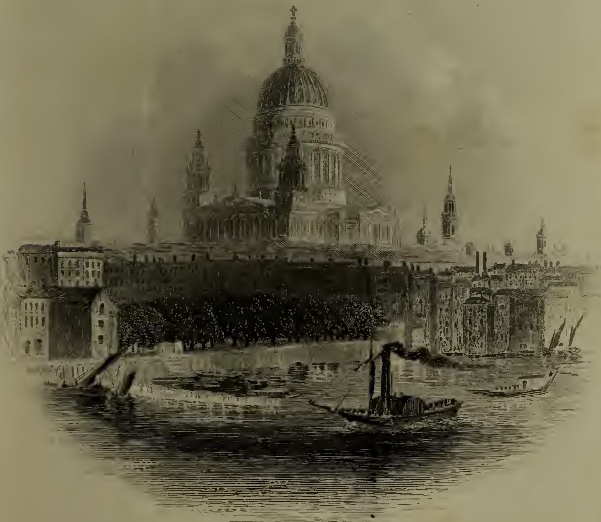

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Forming a Complete Guide

TO

THE BRITISH METROPOLIS

AND ITS ENVIRONS.

ILLUSTRATED BY UPWARDS OF TWO HUNDRED STEEL ENGRAVINGS FROM ORIGINAL
DRAWINGS AND DAGUERREOTYPES.

With Historical and Descriptive Letter-press,

BY WILLIAM GASPEY, ESQ.

VOL. II.

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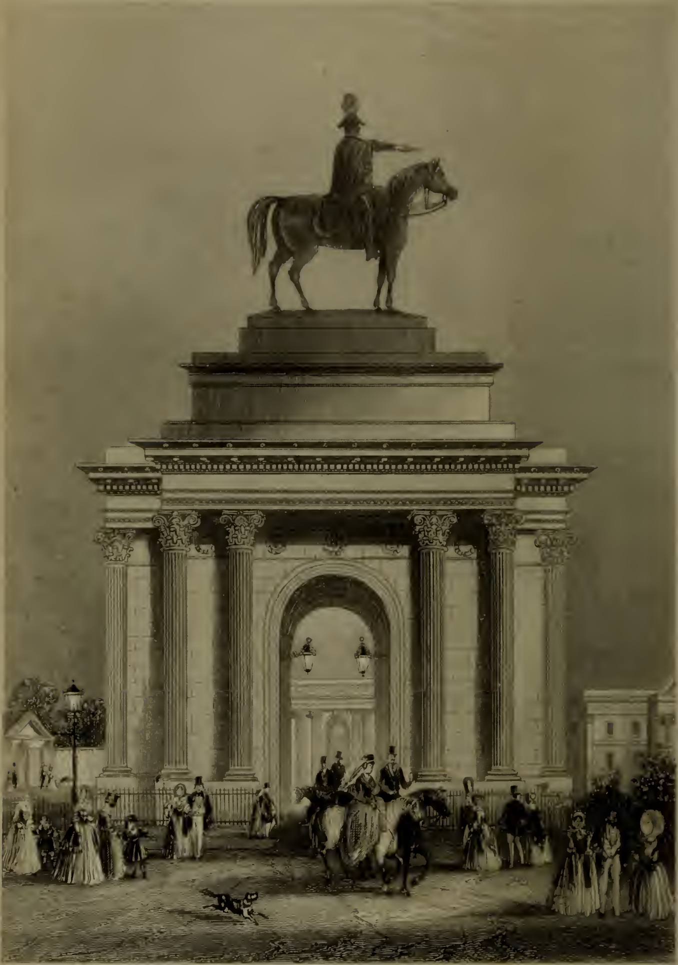

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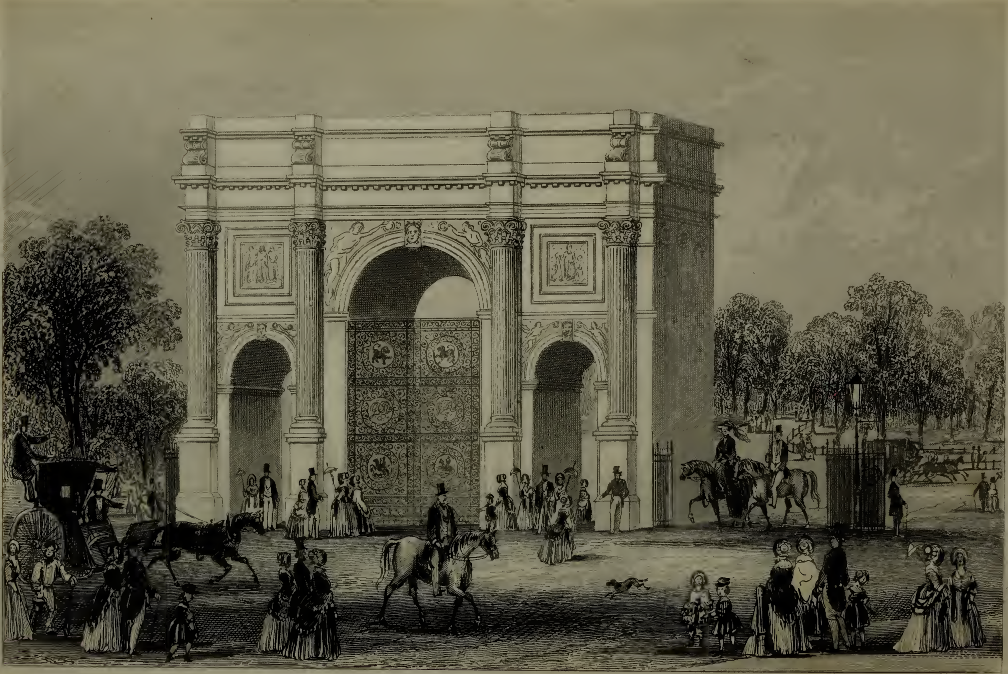

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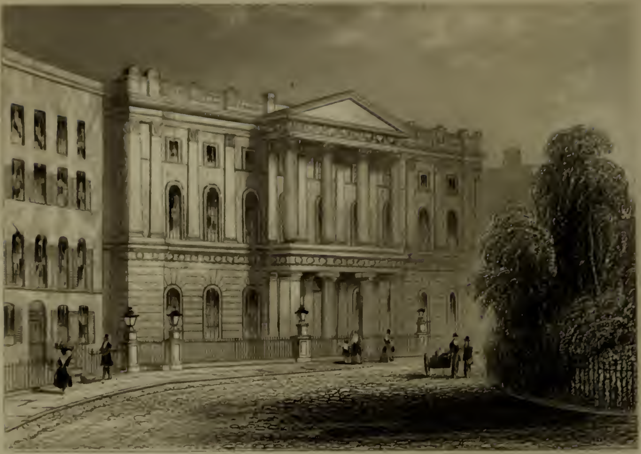
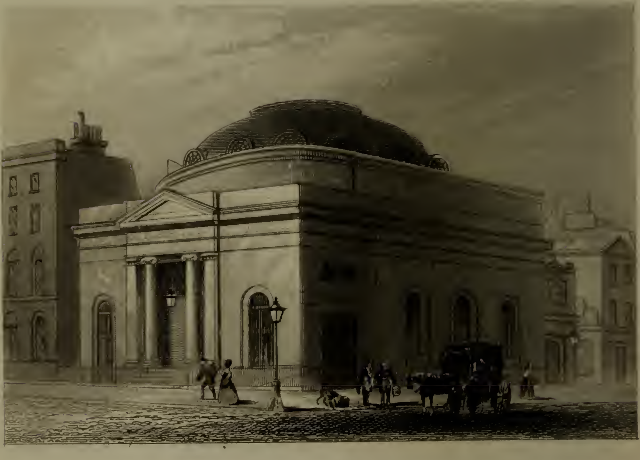


LONDON INSTITUTION, FINSBURY CIRCUS.



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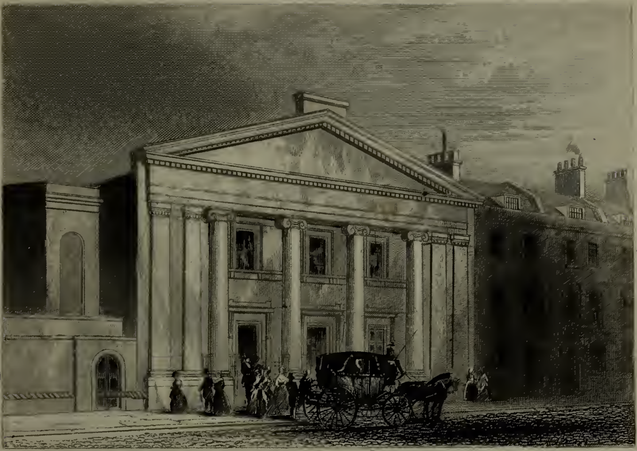
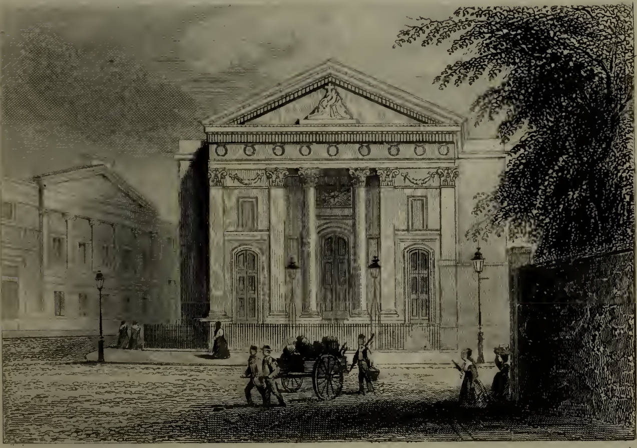
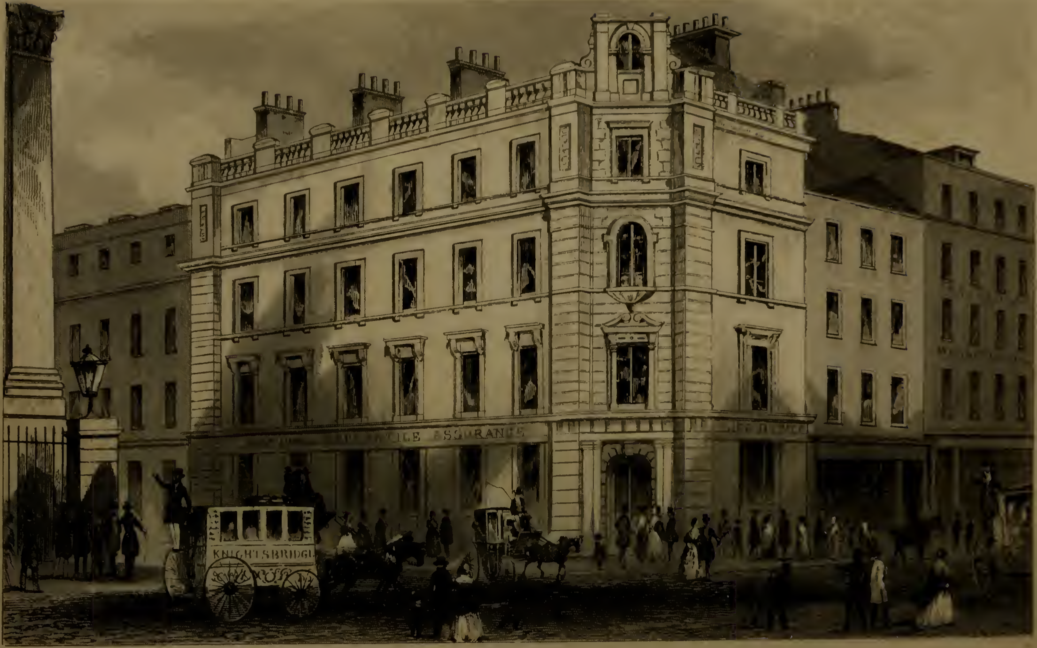


UNITARIAN CHAPEL, SOUTH PLACE FINSBURY



ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPEL, MOORFIELDS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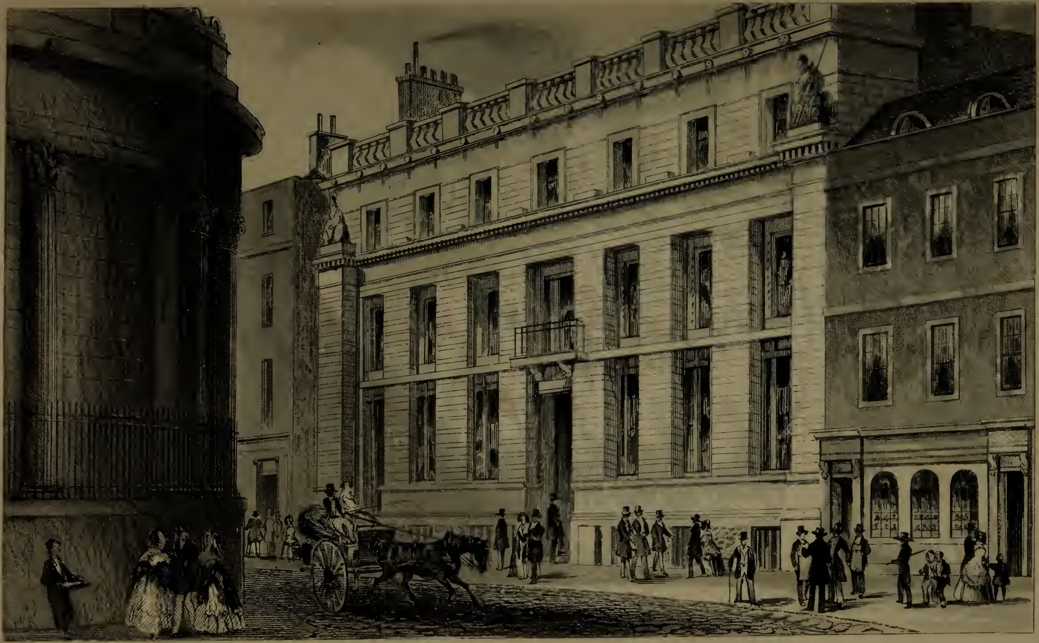
ILE ASSURANCE

THE NATIONAL MERCANTILE ASSURANCE LIFE OFFICE

the Poultry



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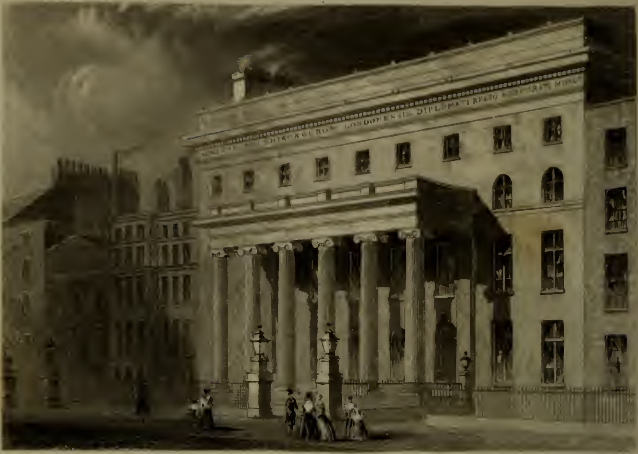
Lothbury.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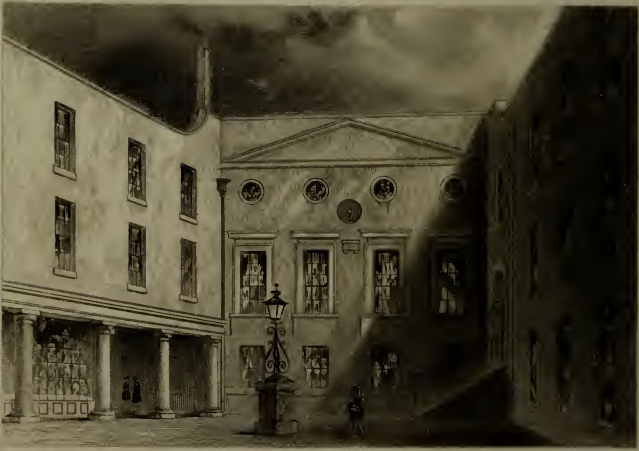
ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.



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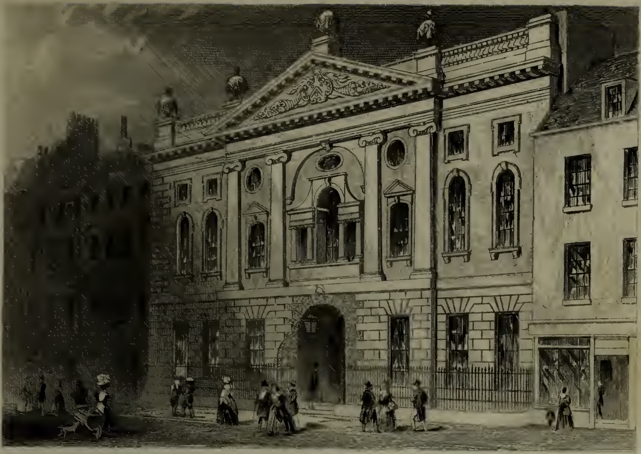

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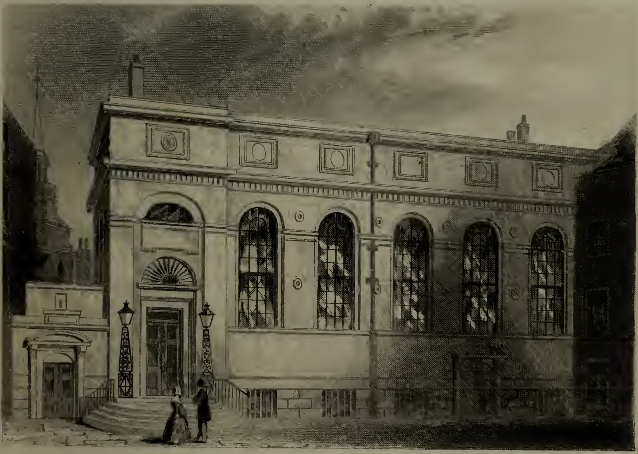

STATIONERS HALL

TALLIS'S

ILLUSTRATED LONDON.

CHAPTER I.

NEWGATE-STREET—CHRIST CHURCH—CHRIST'S HOSPITAL—HOLBORN—ELY-PLACE—HATTON-GARDEN—FURNIVAL'S INN—BROOK-STREET—GRAY'S INN—CHANCERY-LANE—LINCOLN'S INN—RED LION-SQUARE—LAMB'S CONDUIT-STREET—GREAT ORMOND-STREET—FOUNDLING HOSPITAL—RUSSELL-SQUARE—BLOOMSBURY-SQUARE—BRITISH MUSEUM—ST. GILES'S CHURCH, ETC.

ONCE more we return to our original starting point, St. Paul's-churchyard, from which, entering Cheapside, we take a westerly direction, proceeding down *Newgate-street*, a street parallel with Paternoster-row, and at the eastern corner of which St. Martin's-le-Grand and Cheapside unite. This street is named after the gate which formerly occupied its west end, between Giltspur-street and the Old Bailey. Warwick-lane, Ivy-lane, Newgate-market, and the other places on its south side have already been noticed in our description of Paternoster-row. On the north side, in *Bagnio-court*, or *Bath-street*, the first bagnio or warm bath in England is supposed to have been established, in connection with which an hotel was also raised. The bath remains. The next street is *King Edward-street*, which runs from Newgate-street to Little Britain, and on part of the left hand side of which the wall of the garden of Christ's Hospital extends. It was first known as *Stinking-lane*, which was superseded by *Chick-lane*. It afterwards was called *Blowbladder-street*, we are told by Defoe, "from the butchers who used to kill and dress their sheep there, and who, it seems had a custom to blow up their meat with pipes, to make it look thicker and fatter than it was, and were punished there for it by the Lord Mayor." *Butcherhall-lane* was its next title, which about nine years since it relinquished for King Edward-street, adopting for its sponsor the royal and munificent founder of Christ's Hospital. In this street is the eastern end of *Christ Church, Newgate-street,* to the front of which a passage from the last-named street conducts. This is one of the most interesting of the city churches. It stands upon the site of the old church of the Grey Friars. The original edifice was reckoned one of the most superb of the conventual. Margaret, daughter of Philip the Bold, and second queen of Edward I., in 1306 began the choir. Isabella, queen to Edward II., gave seventy pounds; and queen Phillippa, wife of Edward III., bestowed sixty-two pounds towards the building. John de Bretagne, Duke of Richmond, built the body of the church at a vast expense; and Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, gave twenty great beams out of his forest at Tunbridge. The fraternity of Grey Friars was held in high estimation among the titled and wealthy of early times, and many rich persons when they died, were, in conformity with their wishes, interred in the monastic cemetery; "for they," writes Pennant, "if they were particularly wicked, thought themselves secure against the assaults of the devil, if their corpse were wrapped in the habit and cowl of a friar." In this churchyard were buried four queens:—Margaret, consort of Edward I.; Isabella, queen of Edward II.; her daughter, Joan of the Tower, wife of Edward Bruce, King of Scotland; and Isabella, wife of Sir William Fitzwarren, titular Queen of Man. Isabella, the adulterous queen of Edward II., whom Gray thus apostrophizes—

> "She-wolf of France, with unrelenting fangs
> That tear'st the bowels of thy mangled mate,"

was buried with the heart of her murdered husband on her breast. Here also were interred Isabella, Countess of Bedford, daughter of Edward III.; Beatrice, Duchess of Bretagne, daughter of Henry III.; John, Duke of Bourbon, a prisoner at the battle of Agincourt, who died in 1443; Roger Mortimer, the paramour of the guilty Queen Isabella, hung for his share in King Edward's murder at Tyburn; Sir Robert Tresilian, Chief Justice of England, and Sir Nicholas Brembre, Lord Mayor of London, who were executed at Tyburn in the reign of Richard II.; and Thomas Burdett, ancestor to the present Miss Burdett Coutts. This gentleman had a white buck, which Edward IV. happened to kill. Irritated at the loss of his favourite, Burdett wished the horns in the person's body who had advised the king to destroy the animal. This was construed into a treasonable expression, and being tried for his unguarded speech, he was convicted and decapitated. In 1523, Lady Alice Hungerford, a titled murderess, obtained the privilege of lying in this consecrated ground. She had assassinated her husband, for which she was conducted from the Tower to Holborn, there transferred to a cart with one of her attendants, and thence carried to Tyburn and hung. The ancient and interesting monuments of this church were sold in 1545 by Sir Martin Bowes, Lord Mayor of London, for £50, a transaction by no means redounding to the credit or taste of the municipal barbarian. A citizen of far greater refinement of character, who flourished a century before Bowes's time, Sir Richard Whittington, endowed this church in 1429 with a library 129 feet long by 31 feet broad, which in three years was filled with books to the value of £556, whereof Whittington contributed to the amount of £400. On the dissolution of religious houses, this church was despoiled of its ornaments and valuables, which were confiscated to the use of Henry VIII., and the sacred edifice made a storehouse for French prizes. The King, shortly before his death, granted the church and convent to the city. The old church was burnt in 1666, and the present handsome structure commenced in 1687 by Sir Christopher Wren, was completed in 1704. It contains large galleries for the use of the scholars of Christ's Hospital. In 1691 Richard Baxter, the celebrated author of the *Saints' Everlasting Rest,* was buried in Christ Church.

Adjoining Christ Church is that noble educational institution

CHRIST'S HOSPITAL,

also called the *Bluecoat School,* from the peculiar dress worn by the pupils, consisting of a blue coat or gown, a yellow under coat, a red leather waistband, yellow stockings, a clerical neck-band, and a flat cap, which latter article of dress is seldom worn. The hospital occupies the site of the Grey Friars' monastery, and was founded by King Edward VI., it being that monarch's last act of charity. Only two days before his death he signed the charter of incorporation for this school, when he exclaimed—"Lord, I yield thee most hearty thanks that thou hast given me life thus long to finish this work to the glory of thy name." The hospital was erected "for the education and the maintenance of the poor children of decayed merchants and tradesmen of the city of London." In the first year of its foundation (1553) no fewer than 340 children were admitted. The number now exceeds 1,300, a portion of whom, including a few girls, who participate in the benefits of the institution, are educated at an auxiliary school at Hertford. There are scarcely any parts of the ancient priory remaining, except the cloisters and buttery. After the great fire, Charles II. founded the mathematical school in 1672, for the instruction of 40 boys in navigation. He also endowed it for seven years with £1,000, and a perpetual annuity of £370 10*s.* payable from the Exchequer for the educating and placing out yearly 10 boys in the maritime service. A second mathematical school for 36 boys was established by Mr. Travers. The reconstruction of the south front, which was accomplished by the liberality of Sir Robert Clayton at an outlay of £7,000, was commenced in 1675. The writing school was originated in 1694 by Sir John More, knight and alderman, and finished at his own expense. It stands at the west side of the play-ground, and rests upon columns, the space under which is allotted for play and exercise. This school contains a desk at which 300 boys may write at the same time. The hospital comprehends several buildings, which extend from east to west on the northern side of Newgate-street. The most magnificent part of this hospital is the New Hall, the first stone of which was laid by his royal highness the late Duke of York in 1825, and it was opened in 1829. It is in the Elizabethan style, and was built from designs by the late Mr. Shaw, the architect of St. Dunstan's-in-the-West. It is partly raised on the old wall of London, and partly on the foundations of the refectory of the Grey Friars. Its southern part faces Newgate-street. It is sustained by buttresses, and at each extremity an octagon tower is erected. The summit is embattled and ornamented with pinnacles; and the upper part of the western tower is used as an observatory. On the grand story is an open arcade 187 feet long and 16½ wide, for the shelter or recreation of the boys in hot or wet weather; a meeting-room for the governors, &c., with the staircases and passages of communication. The dining-room, with its lobby and organ-gallery, occupies the entire upper story, which is 187 feet long, 51 wide, and 47 high. On the south side are nine large and handsome windows; at the east end is a dais or stage for the governors, and along the west and north sides are galleries for the accommodation of visitors. The arcade, under the hall, is built with blocks of Haytor granite, highly wrought; the remainder of the front is of Portland stone. The two leading classes in the school are called Grecians and Deputy-Grecians. Several university exhibitions or fellowships are attached to the Hospital, the revenues of which proceeding from royal and private donations, and from a grant by the city of various privileges are extensive. The yearly expenditure exceeds £30,000. Its government is placed in the hands of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and a certain number of Common Councilmen, elected by lot; and benefactors to the amount of £500 are also governors. Every Sunday, from Christmas to Easter, the boys sup in the large hall, a domestic spectacle to which the public are admitted by tickets. These banquets commence at 6 o'clock. "Three tables are covered with neat cloths, wooden platters, little wooden buckets of beer, with bread, &c. The ceremony begins with three strokes of a mallet, producing the most profound silence. One of the seniors having ascended the pulpit, reads a chapter from the Bible; and during prayers the boys stand; and the 'Amen,' pronounced by such a number of voices, has a striking effect. A hymn, sung by the whole youthful assembly, accompanied by the organ, concludes this part of the solemnity at the supper. The treasurers, governors, and those of the public who procure admission, are seated at the south end of the hall; the master, steward, matron, &c., at the north end; and the several nurses at the table to preserve good order. At the conclusion of the whole, the doors of the wards are thrown open, and the boys pass by the company in procession; first the nurse, then a boy carrying two lighted candles; others with bread baskets and trays, and the remainder, two by two, who all pay their obedience as they pass."* On Easter Monday and Tuesday the boys attend the Spital Sermons, preached to recommend the various charities under the care of the Corporation of London to the consideration of the affluent. The sermon on the Monday is invariably delivered by a bishop; that on Tuesday by some distinguished divine. On the Monday the Bluecoat Boys walk in procession to the Royal Exchange, where they wait for the Lord Mayor, who on this occasion comes in state, and whom they accompany to Christ Church to hear the sermon. On Tuesday they go in procession to the Mansion House, where the Lord Mayor, the Lady Mayoress, and the Members of the Corporation are in attendance in the Egyptian Hall to receive them; the boys are all entertained with plum-cake and wine, and each is presented with a new shilling. They then pass in procession before the company, and withdraw. On these occasions each boy bears a paper on his breast with the inscription :—" He is risen." Among the eminent scholars educated at this school were William Camden, author of the *Britannia;* Bishop Stillingfleet; Samuel Richardson, the novelist; Thomas Mitchell, the translator of *Aristophanes;* Thomas Barnes, who edited for many years the *Times Newspaper;* and Samuel Taylor Coleridge, the poet.

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* Cooke.

Arriving at the west end of Newgate-street, and crossing the road which intersects the Old Bailey and Giltspur-street, *Skinner-street* is reached, the old name of which was *Snow-hill,* a corruption of Snor-hill, a Saxon word of the same meaning. Skinner-street was built in 1802 by Mr. Alderman Skinner on Snow-hill, and a spacious and handsome communication made between Newgate-street and Holborn, in lieu of the former narrow, steep, and circuitous route. At the corner of Skinner-street and Giltspur-street is *St. Sepulchre's Church,* to some of the mournful associations of which we have had occasion to refer in our notice of Newgate. It is built upon the site of a former church dedicated to the Holy Sepulchre at Jerusalem. The body of the edifice sustained some injury from the fire of 1666, the course of which was arrested at Pie-corner, a few yards to the north of the church. The celebrated Roger Ascham was buried here.

At the end of Skinner-street, where the road passes between Farringdon-street and Victoria-street, stood *Holborn,* or *Ouldbourne-bridge,* a stone bridge over the Fleet. The origin of Holborn is thus mentioned by Stow :—" Oldborne, or Hilborn, breaking out about the place where now the Bars do stand, and run down the old street to Oldborn-bridge, into the river of the Wells, or Turnemill Brook. This bourne was likewise long since stopped up at the head and in other places, where the same hath broken out, but yet till this day the said street is there, called High Oldborne Hill, and both sides thereof, together with all the ground adjoining, which lie between it and the river Thames, remain full of springs, so that water is there found at hand, and hard to be stopped in every house." From Farringdon-street to Fetter-lane, the thoroughfare is called *Holborn-hill;* from Fetter-lane to Brook-street, it is styled *Holborn;* and from Brook-street to Drury-lane, *High Holborn.* In the last century the steep ascent up Holborn-hill witnessed many a dismal cavalcade of unhappy convicts on their way to the place of execution at Tyburn. Up this hill Lord William Russell was conveyed to the Scaffold in Lincoln's-Inn-fields, where that estimable nobleman terminated his earthly career. On the north side of Holborn-hill is *Field-lane,* one side of which has been removed to facilitate the improvements now in progress in the dense and squalid neighbourhood to which it conducts. This lane for many years has preserved a most unenviable notoriety as being the receptacle of stolen goods, especially of silk handkerchiefs abstracted by the ingenuity of the light-fingered conveyancers from their rightful owners. It leads to the narrow streets and alleys in connection with *Saffron-hill,* which, some three centuries ago, presented a very different aspect to that which it now offers. In 1560 the denomination of Saffron-hill was not misplaced, being then a neighbourhood where saffron meads and blooming gardens gratified the senses. Upon the spot where it stands, there was a narrow path through a long pasture, with Turnmill-brook on one side, and Lord Hatton's garden on the other, while Field-lane was a mere opening to the fields. A passage between two hedges passed to Smithfield, on the site of *Chick-lane,* noted some hundred years since for the Black Boy-alley gang, twenty-one of whom were simultaneously hung at Tyburn for murder committed on this ill-starred spot. Proceeding up Holborn, *Ely-place,* which covers the ground once occupied by Hatton House, the residence of Sir Christoper Hatton, the favourite chancellor of Queen Elizabeth next claims attention. Upon this spot originally John de Kirkley, Bishop of Ely, who died in 1290, laid the foundation of a palace, which was improved by his successor, on the whole consisting of more than twenty acres walled in. The strawberries cultivated in the garden of Ely House were famous, and Holinshed records that Richard, Duke of Gloucester (afterwards Richard III.), at the council held in the Tower on the morning he put Lord Hastings to death, requested a dish of them from the Bishop. In Ely House John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, died in 1399. Sir Christoper Hatton in 1576 became the tenant of the greater part of the house for a period of twenty-one years. "The rent," says Mr. Cunningham, "was a red rose, ten loads of hay, and £10 per annum; Bishop Cox, on whom this hard bargain was forced by the Queen, reserving to himself and successors the right of walking in the gardens, and gathering twenty bushels of roses yearly." Eventually the luckless prelate was compelled by Elizabeth to transfer the entire house and gardens to Sir Christopher Hatton. That eminent personage died here in 1591, and was succeeded in his property by his nephew, Newport, who assumed the name of Hatton, and whose widow, the Lady Hatton, whom tradition asserts to have made a fearful compact with the Evil One, was married to Sir Edward Coke, the eminent lawyer. On the death of the last Lord Hatton the property reverted to the crown, and upon its site the present buildings were erected. The wide street called *Hatton-garden,* leading from Holborn to Clerkenwell, with some streets branching therefrom, cover the ground where formerly the vineyard, meadow, orchard, and garden of Ely House existed, and is named after Sir Christopher Hatton, who wrested that fair domain from the prelate. The foundations of the present street were laid in 1659.

On the south side of Holborn-hill, adjoining Shoe-lane, which is also entered from Fleet-street, and nearly opposite to Ely-place, is the parish church of *St. Andrew's, Holborn.* Originally it was a rectory, of which the abbots of Bermondsey had the patronage, and upon the dissolution of monastic establishments it was granted to Lord Chancellor Thomas Wriothesley, the Earl of Southampton, a great persecutor of the early Protestants, and upon his death he was buried in the church. The present fabric was built by Sir Christopher Wren in 1687, and has numbered among its rectors Bishops Bancroft and Stillingfleet, and Dr. Sacheverel. In St. Andrew's Church was baptized Richard Savage, the unfortunate poet, and his equally luckless fellow-bard Chatterton, was interred there. Mr. Cunningham notices the curious fact that Savage was born in Fox-court, Brook-street, and Chatterton died in Brook-street; and that Savage died in Bristol, and Chatterton was born in Bristol. There are many monuments in the interior, and among the benefactions, Lady Hatton, who died in 1645, gave £500 to remain stock for the poor, both below and above the bars. Adjacent to the church is *Thavies Inn,* so named after a mansion which stood upon the spot in the reign of Edward III., belonging to John Tavye. It afterwards became a Law Inn attached to Lincoln's Inn, but having been destroyed by fire, it was deserted by the lawyers, and private dwellings raised upon the plot. Fetter-lane, which has an opening into Holborn, has been noticed in our survey of Fleet-street. Returning to the north side a handsome pile of buildings called *Furnival's Inn* attracts the eye. In ancient days this was the residence of the Furnivals, a noble family who came from Normandy in the time of Richard I., and accompanied the Lion King to Palestine, and who subsequently were distinguished for their prowess on the battle-fields of Caen and Cressy. The title became extinct in the reign of Richard II., and the estate passed into the possession of Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury. In Elizabeth's reign Lord

Shrewsbury sold the property to the Society of Lincoln's Inn, by whom the chief portion of the old house was taken down in the days of Charles I. In 1819 the premises were entirely removed, and the present handsome range of buildings erected by Mr. Peto. The composition of the front is of three parts: a boldly-projecting centre, and two slightly projecting wings. It is four stories in height: the entrance, or ground story, is rusticated and perforated by windows with semicircular heads; the centre opening is a large gateway, covered by an elliptical rusticated arch, and leads to the inner quadrangle; the one and two-pair stories have windows decorated by architraves; those in the wings have pediments: the whole is surmounted by a cornice. The centre of the principal division has a portico of the Ionic order. At the bottom of the inner quadrangle is a handsome hotel. Opposite is *Barnard's Inn,* an Inn of Chancery belonging to Gray's Inn, and possessing no architectural pretensions. It was originally called Mackworth's Inn, having been given by the executors of Dr. John Mackworth, Dean of Lincoln, to the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln, on condition that they should find a pious priest to perform divine service in the Cathedral of Lincoln, in which John Mackworth was buried. *Castle-street,* the next turning, covers the site of the mansion of Thomas Howard, Earl of Arundel, celebrated for his love of the fine arts, and for his having introduced many architectural improvements into this country. *Staple's Inn,* an Inn of Chancery belonging to Gray's Inn, is entered from the south of Holborn, close to Middle-row. It was thus named from its being a staple in which the wool-merchants used to assemble, and as early as 1415 was transferred to the members of the legal profession. It has also an entrance from Southampton-buildings, and has been much improved since 1843 by the erection of several elegant stone mansions in which are the offices of some of the Masters in Chancery. On the north side, facing Staple's Inn, is *Brook-street,* which, though now a place of little account, indicates the situation once occupied by the princely residence of Sir Fulk Greville, Lord Brook, the names and titles of whose distinguished family are perpetuated in *Greville*, and some of the adjacent streets. This nobleman perished in 1628 by the hands of Ralph Haywood, a retainer, who had passed the greater part of his life in his lordship's service. Lord Brook omitted this person from his will, a fact which he himself communicated to Haywood. The disappointed man, entering his lordship's bed-room, remonstrated upon this treatment, to which the testator replying angrily, Haywood inflicted upon him a mortal sword-wound, and withdrawing to another room terminated his own life with the weapon which he had so fatally employed against his master. In 1770 the youthful poet Chatterton, driven to desperation by hunger and neglect, poisoned himself in this street by taking arsenic in water, he being then not eighteen years of age.

We are now at *Holborn Bars,* the extent of the city jurisdiction, passing which and opposite to *Middle-row,* a range of houses between the carriage-way and the south side of Holborn (a nuisance which ought long since to have disappeared), we arrive at *Gray's Inn-lane,* a long straggling thoroughfare on the north side, which, continued by Gray's Inn-road, terminates at King's Cross, New-road. It is named after the adjacent Inn of Court, and towards its north end several handsome streets and squares cover a space which not many years back yielded a pleasant country walk. *Gray's Inn* extends from the west side of Gray's Inn-lane to the back of Bedford-row, and to Holborn and King's-road on the south and north. Its name is derived from the noble family of the Grays, who in the reign of Edward III. conveyed the ground on which it has been erected, and which formed part of the manor of Portpool, to Hugh Denny. The next owner of the manor was the Prior of East Sheen, in Surrey, by whom it was let on lease to certain students of law, a lease which was renewed by Henry VIII. The hall was erected in 1560, and the gardens in 1600. Among the residents of this Inn may be named Edward Hall, author of the *Chronicles;* Gascoigne the poet; Queen Elizabeth's favourite minister, Lord Burleigh; the great but fallible Lord Bacon, and Bradshaw the regicide. The gardens are very extensive, and well planted with timber; they are entered from the south side through a rich gate and piers. "In Charles the Second's time, and the days of the *Tatler* and *Spectator,* they were a fashionable promenade on a summer evening. The great Lord Bacon is said to have planted some of the trees, but none now exist coeval with his time. The principal entrance from Holborn was by *Fulwood's-rents,* then a fashionable locality, now the squalid habitation of the poorest people in the parish of St. Andrew's. The gardens in Charles the Second's time possessed an uninterrupted view towards Highgate and Hampstead. Moorfields gave way to Gray's Inn, Gray's Inn to the Mall in St. James' Park, the Mall to the Ring, and the Ring to the Long Walk in Gray's Inn Gardens."* In *Gray's Inn Coffee-house,* adjoining Gray's Inn Gate in Holborn, the commissions held in London to inquire into the state of mind of alleged lunatics generally take place.

Facing the gate of Gray's Inn is *Southampton-buildings,* extending from Holborn into Chancery-lane and Staple's Inn. They stand upon the site of Southampton House, the mansion of the Wriothesleys, earls of Southampton, which was taken down in 1652. Stow says, the old Temple, the early abode of the Knights Templars in England, occupied this ground. In Southampton-buildings are the offices of the Masters in Chancery, and also the *London Mechanics' Institution,* established in 1823 by the late Dr. Birkbeck, "for increasing the knowledge, refining the taste, and eliciting the genius of the artizans of London," for which object nearly £4,000 were given by its munificent founder. Attached to it is a commodious lecture-theatre, an extensive library and reading-rooms, and schools for instruction in the various branches of education. It is one of the most flourishing and best attended institutions in the metropolis.

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* Peter Cunningham.

The next turning on the south side of Holborn is Chancery-lane, the antecedents of which have been described in our progress through Fleet-street. In this lane is one of the chief entrances to that celebrated Inn of Court, *Lincoln's Inn,* called the Gate-house, erected by Sir Thomas Lovell in 1518. There are also entrances to Lincoln's Inn from Carey-street, Lincoln's Inn-fields, and the higher part of Chancery-lane. The ground covered by the Inn was anciently occupied by the house of the Dominicans or Black Friars, and upon the removal of that community to the neighbourhood which still bears their name, it came into the possession of Ralph de Nova Villa or Neville, who held the appointments of Lord Chancellor and Bishop of Chichester. He built a large house here where he lived until the time of his death in 1244, and *Chichester-rents* in Chancery-lane, fill the area where the episcopal palace formerly stood. The property was granted by Edward I. to Henry Lacy, Earl of Lincoln. That nobleman made it his residence, and hence it was called his Inn, the word *Inn* in those days simply meaning a dwelling-house, and used in the same sense as "hotel" is to this day in France. The Bishops of Chichester again became the proprietors of Lincoln's Inn, which they held till the early part of the sixteenth century, when Robert Sherborn, the then bishop, conveyed the estate to William Sulyard, the judge, for a long time. His descendant Sir Edward Sulyard, disposed of the whole to the benchers of Lincoln's Inn. Fuller, author of the *Worthies,* writes that "Ben Jonson helped in the building of the new structure of Lincoln's Inn, when, having a trowel in one hand, he had a book in his pocket." The old hall of Lincoln's Inn, where the students, barristers, and benchers were accustomed to dine together in Term time, was erected by Sir Thomas Lovell in 1506. Since the erection of the new hall it has ceased to serve the purposes of a refectory, but is still used for the sittings of the Lord

Chancellor out of Term. Between the Gate-house and old hall are two modern gloomy-looking rooms, the courts of the two additional Vice-Chancellors created some years since; and between the hall and the garden is the chief Vice-Chancellor's Court. The new hall of Lincoln's Inn, a handsome building in the Elizabethan style of red brick with stone dressings, has incroached considerably on the garden, and extends along a great portion of the east side of Lincoln's Inn-fields, whence a handsome gateway, corresponding in appearance, leads into the Inn. The first stone was laid in 1843, and the hall was opened by Queen Victoria in October, 1845. It is 120 feet long, 45 feet wide, and 62 feet in height, and the roof is of carved oak. The library, formerly in Stone-buildings, attached to it is 80 feet long, 40 feet wide, and in height 44 feet. In the hall, removed from the old hall, are Hogarth's painting of Paul before Felix, and a fine statue of Lord Erskine by Westmacott. Facing the entrance to this superb range of building is *Lincoln's- Inn New-square,* erected long subsequent to the formation of the Inn of Court on a piece of ground successively called *Little Lincoln's Inn-fields, Ficquet's-fields,* and *Serle's-court,* by Mr. Henry Searle, who died in 1690. The garden of Lincoln's Inn is still very considerable, and is well laid out. The original wall by which it is separated from Lincoln's Inn-fields was raised in 1663, at an outlay of £100. *Stone-buildings,* a noble row of large houses or rather mansions, to which there is an opening from Chancery-lane, form the eastern boundary of the garden. *Lincoln's Inn Chapel,* on the east side of the *Old-square,* is a Gothic edifice after the design of Inigo Jones. Its consecration sermon was preached by Dr. Donne on Ascension Day, 1623. It is raised on thick Gothic arches, which are adorned with armorial bearings and other figures carved on the stone. A cloister is thus formed, in the shade of which Cromwell's secretary, Thurloe; Prynne, the persecuted Puritan; and other eminent lawyers repose. The interior of the chapel is profusely enriched with stained glass windows.

Among the preachers of this chapel the names of Donne, Usher, Tillotson, and Heber, shine conspicuous. We close our notice of Lincoln's Inn by giving the names of some of its eminent members and students:—Charles II.; his brother, James, Duke of York; Prince Rupert; Sir Thomas More; Oliver Cromwell; Sir Henry Spelman; Sir Matthew Hale; Sir John Denham; George Wither; Rushworth; Lord Shaftesbury; Lord Erskine; Lord Mansfield; Mr. Canning; Lord Brougham; Lord Lyndhurst; and Prince Albert.

In connection with this ancient Inn of Court, that noble square *Lincoln's Inn-fields,* not part of, but deriving its title from the same, is most worthy of mention. These fields were originally a place of recreation, and bowls and other games were practised here. The place was partially built upon in 1580, when Queen Elizabeth issued a proclamation by which she prohibited the erection of more houses about London. This edict was revoked six years afterwards, and in 1618 the disposition of the ground was, by an order of James I., confided to the care of Lord Chancellor Bacon, the Earls of Worcester, Pembroke, Arundel, and others of the nobility and chief gentry. The commission stated, "that more public works near and about the city of London had been undertaken in the sixteen years of that reign, than in ages heretofore; that Lincoln's Inn-fields was much planted round with dwellings and lodgings of noblemen and gentlemen of quality, but at the same time was so deformed by cottages, mean buildings, and encroachments on the fields, that the commissioners were directed to reform them according to the plan of Inigo Jones. Thus authorized, Jones drew the ground plot, which it is said he made the exact dimensions of the base of one of the pyramids of Egypt, a statement upon which considerable doubt is thrown. "The west side, all that Inigo lived to build upon, was called the *Arch-row;* the east side was bounded by the wall of the Lincoln's Inn gardens, (as it is now by the hall of that Inn); the south side was known as *Portugal-row,* and the north as *Holborn-row.*"* The superb style of building adopted by Inigo Jones, is illustrated in the centre houses on the west side, formerly inhabited by the Earls of Lindsay, and their descendants, the Dukes of Ancaster; but now divided into four houses. Since the aristocratic families have abandoned the square, more of their residences have been partitioned. The large house at the corner of Great Queen-street was named Powis House, having been built for Lord Powis in 1686. One of its tenants was Lord Chancellor Somers, and after his death it was inhabited by Thomas Pelham Holles, Duke of Newcastle, after whom it was called Newcastle House. Pope makes honourable mention of it in a couplet of indifferent rhyme :—

"And here great Anna, whom three realms obey,
Does sometimes counsel take, and sometimes tea."

A portion of this house is now occupied by the offices of the *Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.* On the same side, and at the corner of Duke-street, was the residence of the Sardinian ambassador, the adjacent Roman Catholic Chapel, in Duke-street, being raised for his excellency. So recently as 1805, Lord Kenyon, Lord Erskine, and Mr. Spencer Perceval, afterwards Premier, were residents in Lincoln's Inn-fields. On July the 21st, 1683, Lord William Russell was executed in the middle of the square, that being the nearest open space to Newgate. "Some have said," writes Bishop Burnet, "that the Duke of York moved that he might be executed in Southampton-square, before his own house in Southampton-square, (now Southampton-buildings), but that the king rejected that as indecent." The bishop thus speaks of the unfortunate nobleman's demeanour at the place of execution :—"After he had delivered this paper he prayed by himself; then Tillotson prayed with him. After that he prayed again by himself, and then undressed himself, and laid his head on the block without the least change of countenance, and it was cut off at two strokes." The garden enclosure was formed about 1740. Gay, in his clever poem of Trivia, does not speak highly of the reputation of Lincoln's Inn-fields in his time, the passengers through which he thus cautions:—

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* Peter Cunningham.

> "Where Lincoln's Inn, wide space is railed around
> Cross not with venturous step; there oft is found
> The lurking thief, who while the daylight shone,
> Made the walls echo with his begging tone:
> The crutch which late compassion moved, shall wound
> Thy bleeding head, and fell thee to the ground.
> Though thou art tempted by the linkman's call,
> Yet trust him not along the lonely wall;
> In the mid-way he'll quench the flaming brand,
> And share the booty with the pilfering band.
> Still keep the public streets, where oily rays,
> Shot from the crystal lamp, o'erspread the ways."

On the south side of the square is the *College of Surgeons*, rebuilt in 1835, after the designs of Mr. Charles Barry, architect of the new houses of Parliament. It is of the Ionic order, with a fine portico. By an act passed in the fortieth year of the reign of George III. this society was incorporated, and the unparalleled museum attached to the college originated with that celebrated anatomist the late John Hunter, whose collection after his death was purchased by government for £15,000, and presented to the College of Surgeons. The specimens in the museum-room exceed 23,000. Among them are the skeleton of Charles O'Brien the Irish giant, who measured the extraordinary height of eight feet four inches, and who died in 1783; that of Caroline Crachami, a Sicilian dwarf only twenty inches, who died at the age of ten years, in 1824; that of Chunee, the Exeter-'change elephant; also a skeleton of that immense antediluvian animal, the megatherium; and the embalmed body of the first wife of the late Martin Van Butchell. Admission to the museum on the Monday and the three following days of the week, from twelve to four, may be obtained by orders, not transferable, from the fellows and members. On the north side of Lincoln's Inn-fields is *Sir John Soane's Museum,* "formed and founded," says Mr. Cunningham, "in his own house by Sir John Soane, the son of a bricklayer at Reading," and the architect of the Treasury, the Bank of England, and other public establishments. The collections fill twenty-four rooms. Perhaps the most remarkable object in it is the Egyptian sarcophagus found by Belzoni in 1816, in a tomb in the valley of Beban el Malook, near Gournou. It is composed of one single piece of alabaster or arragonite, and is nine feet four inches long, three feet eight inches wide, and two feet eight inches deep; its internal and external surfaces are covered with hieroglyphics. On the interior of the bottom is cut a full-length figure of Isis, the Egyptian deity, and the protector of the dead. The name engraved on this remarkable relict of mortuary magnificence is supposed to be that of Osirei, the progenitor of Rameses the Great. The cover or lid of the alabaster coffins, broken into nineteen pieces, lies underneath it. In 1824 it was bought by Sir John Soane of Mr. Salt, the great oriental traveller for £2,000.

We return to Chancery-lane, whence we diverged through the gate-house into the interesting territory of Lincoln's Inn, and find ourselves in that portion of the lane which is in the district called the *Liberty of the Rolls.* Over this district neither the Sheriff of Middlesex nor any other officer has power, without the sanction of the Master of the Rolls. It commences at the corner of *Cursitor-street,* adjoining Chancery-lane, and opposite Lincoln's Inn, whence it crosses into *White's-alley,* and thence into the ground which was for many years the Rolls-garden, but on which the new judges' offices have much encroached; running into Chancery-lane by *Serjeants' Inn,* it crosses to *Bell-yard*; it then crosses to Lower Searle's-place, (lately Shire-lane), taking in the east side; and again crossing over to Lincoln's Inn New-square, runs to the pump at the corner of the garden, whence it returns to Cursitor-street. An archway on the east side of Chancery-lane leads to the *Rolls House and Chapel.* On the site of the chapel Henry III. established and endowed an asylum for converted Jews, but after the expulsion of the Israelites from the kingdom in 1377, King Edward III. granted the house and chapel to William Burstall, the first Master in Chancery, for the preservation of the Rolls in Chancery, giving to the holder of the newly-appointed office the title of Custos Rotulorum, or Keeper of the Rolls. The chapel is an ancient fabric of a mixed character, supposed to have been erected by Inigo Jones, but at various times it has undergone much alteration. Among the preachers who officiated here were Bishop Burnet, Bishop Atterbury, and Bishop Butler, author of the *Analogy of Religion.* The Rolls House, beneath the roof of which is the Court also, was erected in 1717, during the mastership of Sir Joseph Jekyl, by Colin Campbell. In Vacation time the Master of the Rolls holds sittings here. Nearly opposite to the entrance of the Rolls is the *Law Institution,* founded in 1827, and incorporated in 1831 by the style of "The Society of Attorneys, Solicitors, Proctors, and others, not being Barristers, practising in the Courts of Law and Equity in the United Kingdom." The front portico is supported by pillars of the Ionic order, and the structure extends from Chancery-lane to Bell-yard, several ancient houses having been removed to allow space for the new building. The interior contains a grand hall, library, club-room where members can dine as in the west-end club-houses, registry-office, committee-rooms, lecture-room, &c. This society acts exclusively in the registration of attorneys and solicitors, and the Stamp Commissioners are not permitted to grant a certificate till the Registrar has certified that the applicant possesses the necessary qualifications to enable him to practise. The remaining part of Chancery-lane towards Fleet-street, has been already noticed.

Retracing our steps we come back into High Holborn, and crossing over from Chancery-lane we enter a short street called *Brownlow-street,* built upon the ground where the house and gardens of Sir John Brownlow stood in the time of Charles II. Opposite the north end of Brownlow-street is *Bedford-row,* even now, both in regard to its houses and its width, one of the handsomest streets in this part of London. It is continued by *Great James-street* into Chapel-street, the latter leading into Lamb's Conduit-street. Between Bedford-row and Great James-street, *King's-road* runs on the east to Gray's Inn-lane; and *Theobald's-road* on the west towards Bloomsbury-square: they were thus called because James I. always passed through them when he came to town from his palace at Theobald's, Hertfordshire.

Ascending High Holborn on the south side, *Great Turnstile,* a narrow passage for pedestrians only, runs into Lincoln's Inn-fields. Here was originally a turnstile or "revolving barrier," placed on purpose to exclude horses, and for admitting foot-passengers from Holborn into the Fields. Some yards higher up, on the north side of Holborn, *Red Lion-street* is entered, which, with Lamb's Conduit-street, forms one long street, extending from Holborn to the Foundling Hospital in Guildford-street, between Brunswick and Mecklenburg squares. On the west side of Red Lion-street several narrow passages and streets lead into *Red Lion-square,* one of the dullest and most unattractive squares in the metropolis, and the *locale* of the offices of the *Mendicity Society,* of various other societies, law stationers, and sheriff's officers. It covers the site of fields of the same name, which were called after the Red Lion-inn, once the most important inn in Holborn, and claiming that precedency which has since been awarded to the George and Blue Boar. *Lamb's Conduit-street,* the continuation, and vastly the superior of Red Lion-street, was named after a Mr. William Lamb, who in 1577, writes Stow, "near into Holborn founded a fair conduit, and a standard with a cock at Holborn Bridge to convey thence the waste. The water was carried along in pipes of lead more than 2,000 yards, all at his own cost and charges, amounting to the sum of £1,500." In 1746 the conduit was taken down, and the present handsome street formed out of the adjacent fields. On the east side of this street *Chapel* and *Little Ormond-streets* are situate. On the west the finest street is *Great Ormond-street*, terminating in Queen-square. This street is named after the Duke of Ormond, one of the most devoted adherents of Charles I., and whose descendants were outlawed for their fidelity to the Stuart dynasty. On the north side are several fine old mansions with good gardens attached. At No. 45, resided Lord Thurlow, the Chancellor, and in 1784, some thieves emulating the daring of that famous robber, Blood, stole from his lordship's house the Great Seal of England. Being of silver it was consigned to the melting-pot; and the completion of several public documents and patents was necessarily deferred till another Great Seal could be manufactured. On the area of *Powis-place* in this street stood Powis House, built by the Marquis of Powis in the reign of William III. In 1712, the Duke d'Aumont, the French ambassador then residing in it, it was consumed by fire, and was magnificently rebuilt at the cost of that munificent monarch, Louis XIV. It is to be regretted that this beautiful structure was not of long duration, being pulled down in 1777. *Queen's-square, Bloomsbury,* at the west end of Great Ormond-street, was thus named in honour of Queen Anne. It is oblong in form, and contains a pleasant garden enclosure. The square is comparatively private, there being no outlet at its north end, whence at the time of its erection there was an uninterrupted view to the Highgate and Hampstead Hills, no legions of brick and mortar then intercepting the free current of air.

Guildford-street extends in an eastern direction to Gray's Inn-lane, and to Russell-square on the west. In the centre of that street, immediately facing the end of Lamb's Conduit-street, is that noble institution the *Foundling Hospital,* originated in 1739 by Captain Thomas Coram, (whose name is perpetuated in an adjacent street), as "an hospital for exposed and deserted children." This eminent philanthropist, the early part of whose career was passed as captain of a vessel trading to the colonies, with very moderate means, effected great good, and after seventeen years of unwearied application, founded and firmly established this hospital, and procured a royal charter, dated October 17th, 1739, for its incorporation. The Earl of Salisbury gave £7,000 for the ground, and the hospital was erected after the designs of Theodore Jacobson. Coram devoted a great portion of his life to pursuits of benevolence, and with so utter a disregard to his own interest, that towards the close of his life he was maintained by a stipend, somewhat exceeding £100 yearly, the result of voluntary subscriptions. When Dr. Brocklesby asked this good old man whether a subscription raised for his benefit would offend him, Coram replied:—"I have not wasted the little wealth of which I was formerly possessed, in self-indulgence or vain expenses, and am not ashamed to confess that in this, my old age, I am poor." He died in 1751, aged 82, at his apartments in Leicester-square, and was buried, in accordance with his request, in the vaults beneath the chapel of the Foundling Hospital. In 1760 the hospital was converted into an asylum for "poor illegitimate children whose mothers are known." Handel gave an organ to the chapel, in which his oratorio of the *Messiah* was frequently performed, himself officiating as conductor; and so attractive were these performances that in a few years they added £6,700 to the funds of the charity. Hogarth presented several of his admirable paintings to this hospital, which is also enriched with the works of Reynolds, Richard Wilson, Gainsborough, &c. Parliamentary grants, benefactions from private individuals, dividends on funded property, and other sources of revenue, produce a large income for the benevolent objects of this institution. The hospital is built of brick, and comprehends two wings, the chapel being in the centre. Spacious playgrounds and gardens are attached to it. Male and female children are here nursed, educated, and supplied with all requisites, until they are apprenticed out. The music at the Foundling Chapel has always been fine. Admission may be gained by a trifling contribution in aid of the hospital.

Again in High Holborn, we proceed for a considerable distance till we reach *King-street,* on the north side facing *Little Queen-street,* an outlet from Great Queen-street. By King-street we enter into *Southampton-row,* a handsome range of private residences and shops, and joining Russell-square. The last house on the east side of the row adjoining the square is remarkable as having been the residence of the unfortunate Dr. Dodd, and whence he was taken on a charge of forgery, never to return, expiating his offence by an ignominious death. With Dr. Dodd were executed some fellow-convicts, and it is remarkable, as illustrating the resignation with which he awaited his fate, that he himself preached the condemned sermon in Newgate on the Sunday anterior to the fulfilment of their doom. We are now in *Russell-square,* the largest square in London, except Lincoln's Inn-fields, and erected in 1804. It is thus called from the family name of the Duke of Bedford, the owner of this and the adjacent property. On the south side of the tastefully-arranged plantation in the centre of the square is a fine bronze statue of Francis, Duke of Bedford, erected by Westmacott in 1809. In 1818 Sir Samuel Romilly, a resident in this square, committed self-destruction, and Sir Thomas Lawrence, the great portrait-painter, died here in 1830. Lord Denman, and several of the judges, have been inhabitants of Russell-square. From this square several fine streets branch, and *Tavistock-street, Torrington-square,* and *Woburn-square,* are in close proximity to it. The district into which we have now entered is bounded on the north by the New-road, on the east by the Gray's-inn-road, on the south by Holborn and New Oxford-street, and on the west by Tottenham-court-road. The houses are of an elegant and costly character, and the neighbourhood constitutes a kind of miniature or secondary west-end, lying within the above limits. It is, however, of too recent construction to claim any historic interest, and beyond giving a very favourable impression of our improved style of street architecture, has no particular feature of interest.

Ascending High Holborn, *Southampton-street,* on the north side, in which Colley Cibber was born, leads into *Bloomsbury-square.* This square "was first formed by Thomas Wriothesley, Earl of Southampton, the son of Shakspere's patron. The north side of the square was wholly occupied by Southampton House. The south side was called Vernon-street, the east side Seymour-row, and the west Allington or Arlington-row. It was originally called Southampton-square, but was known as Bloomsbury-square so early as 1674."* At the north-west corner of this square, and in Great Russell-street, are the offices of the *Literary Fund Society.* In Bloomsbury-square the late Mr. D'Israeli prepared his *Curiosities of Literature.* On the north side of the plantation is a bronze statue of Charles James Fox. The statesman is represented in a sitting position, and the statue, with its granite pedestal, is 17 feet in height. From the south side of this square *Hart-street* runs westward, parallel with Holborn. In this street is the parish church of *St. George's, Bloomsbury,* built by Hawksmoor. The portico is much admired for its elegant proportions. At the point where Hart-street enters Holborn two roads, running in parallel lines, continue the main street; on the right hand New Oxford-street, a splendid thoroughfare extending across Tottenham-court-road, and uniting with Oxford-street, and on the left the remaining part of High Holborn to Broad-street, St. Giles. Giving priority to the left-hand road, a few hundred yards bring us to the end of Holborn, indicated on the south side by an entrance to Drury-lane, (as uninviting at its north as at its south end,) and on the north by *Museum-street.* By the latter street we reach one of the grandest national institutions in the kingdom,

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* Cunningham.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

Upon the death of Sir Hans Sloane, in 1753, pursuant to the terms of his will, the whole of his vast collection of objects in natural history, and works of art, together with library of books and manuscripts, were offered to the government for £20,000. The offer, much to the credit of the government, was promptly accepted, and the act authorising such purchase also directed that the Harleian collection of manuscripts should be bought, and enacted that the Cottonian Library, which had been given to the government for the use of the public in the time of William III., should form part of the interesting materials now to be associated together for a specific object. The Harleian manuscripts were formed by Harley, Lord Oxford, and increased by his son. They comprehended seven thousand six hundred and thirty-nine volumes, and include, besides distinct treaties, nearly forty thousand original rolls, letters patent, signs manual, charters, with their confirmation, &c. The Cottonian manuscripts were collected by Sir Robert Cotton, a learned antiquarian in the reign of Charles I. He was such a bibliomaniac, that his death was occasioned by his being excluded access from a library where his amanuensis had copied a tract deemed subversive of royalty. To enable the government to accomplish these valuable purchases, the sum of £300,000 was raised by means of a lottery, and £10,000 were paid for the Harleian collection of manuscripts. In 1754 Montague House, in Great Russell-street, was bought of the Earl of Halifax for £10,250, as a repository for the whole, and the new institution received the name of the *British Museum.* In 1801 additional rooms were built to receive the Egyptian antiquities, but the collection receiving a vast increase by purchase and gift, to hold which the original structure was evidently inadequate, a new building was determined upon. It was commenced in 1823, Sir Robert Smirke being the architect engaged, and the last vestiges of Montague House (except the ugly brick screen), disappeared in 1845. The new edifice is a large quadrangle encompassing an interior court, extending 500 feet from north to south, and about 350 from east to west. The eastern side is occupied by the king's library, and the eastern zoological gallery over it; the reading-room and general library are on the north side, with the north zoological gallery, and the gallery for minerals and fossils above them. The Egyptian monuments, the Elgin Marbles, &c., occupy the western side, the Egyptian and Etruscan rooms being above. The chief front looks south, and exhibits a superb Ionic columnar façade. In the centre is a portico of double columns, flanked on either side by projecting wings, also surrounded by columns. The south front of the British Museum is unquestionably one of the finest architectural ornaments of the metropolis, and in every way worthy of an institution expressly founded to foster a love for letters and art among the community generally. We should be glad if a similar fitness of design and simplicity of taste were evident in some other of our public buildings, also professing to be shrines of art.

The door in the centre of the portico opens into a spacious hall containing a few statues, the principal one being that of Shakspere. On the left, contiguous to the front wall of the building, is a passage conducting to the various sculpture galleries, and northward of this is the grand staircase. The upper story consists of the Ethnological room in the south-west wing, and a series of rooms appropriated to zoological specimens stretching eastward, and forming the mammalia saloon. We proceed briefly to notice some of the leading features in this vast and unrivalled collection. The *Egyptian Saloon*, on the ground-floor, contains 6,000 relics of that mysterious country watered by the Nile, including statues, columns, funereal urns, &c. In the *Egyptian Room*, on the floor above, are more than 100 glass cases, enclosing, among other curiosities illustrative of the customs of the ancient Egyptians, several human mummies, some of which have been abstracted from their colossal tombs, the Pyramids. The *Etruscan Room* is the repository of many beautiful vases discovered in Italy, and styled Etruscan or painted vases. The *Elgin Marbles* (in the Elgin Saloon), were brought to England from the Parthenon in Athens, in 1801, by the Earl of Elgin, British ambassador at the Turkish court. The sculptures in the Museum which appertain to it are of four kinds: Metopes, or bas-reliefs, inserted into the wall, representing the battle of the Centaurs and Lapithæ; the Frieze, a series of bas-reliefs forming the external frieze of the Cella of the Parthenon, and representing the solemn procession called the Panathenæa, which took place at Athens every six years in honour of Minerva; Marbles in the East Pediment and Marbles in the West Pediment, comprehending groups of statuary which belonged to one or other of the pediments of the Parthenon, and severally representing the Birth of Minerva, and the Contest of Minerva and Neptune for the Guardianship of Attica. In the *Phigalian Saloon* are the Phigalian Marbles, bas-reliefs representing the battle of the Centaurs and Lapithæ, and the strife between the Greeks and Amazons. They were found in the ruins of the Temple of Apollo Epicurius, built on Mount Cotytion, a short distance from the ancient city of Phigalia, in Arcadia. Pausanias, in his description of this temple, writes that it was built by Ictinus, an architect contemporary with Pericles, and who, in conjunction with Callistratus, erected the Parthenon at Athens, at the time when Phidias had the general direction of the works. *Ægina Marbles.* Above the Phigalian Frieze are two pediments similar in proportions to those which embellished the east and west ends of the Temple of Jupiter Panhellenius, in the isle of Ægina. The *Lycian* or *Xanthian Marbles,* of anterior existence to those taken from the Parthenon, were found and brought to England by Sir Charles Fellows. They comprise tombs, bas-reliefs, and statues from the ruined city of Xanthus. Some of these sculptures represent the conquest of Lycia by the Persians, and the fall of Xanthus. *Bodroum Marbles,* in the Phigalian Saloon. "Bas-reliefs brought to England in 1846, from Bodroum, in Asia Minor, the site of the ancient Halicarnassus, and presented to the British Museum by Sir Stratford Canning. They are supposed to have formed part of the mausoleum or sepulchre built in the fourth year of the 106th Olympiad, B.C. 357, by Artemisia, queen of Caria, in honour of her husband, king Mausolus. They were found in a fortress at the entrance of the harbour, having been built into the faces of the exterior and interior walls. This fortress was built by the Knights of Rhodes about 1400. The story represented is a combat of Amazons and Greek warriors."* The *Townley Collection* of marbles was commenced at Rome, in 1768, by Charles Townley, Esq., of Burnley, Lancashire, and was purchased by Parliament for £28,000. It comprehends Terra-cottas, Greek and Roman sculptures, sepulchral antiquities, &c. The *Portland* or *Barberini Vase,* in height 9¾ inches, and in circumference 21¾ inches, was found in a sepulchral vault, a few miles from Rome, on the way to Frascati, during the papacy of Urban VIII. Sir William Hamilton, British ambassador at Naples, purchased it at the sale of the Barberini Library, and afterwards sold it to the Duchess of Portland. It was deposited here in 1810, but still belongs to the Duke of Portland. The figures are displayed upon a ground of dark amethystine blue. In February, 1845, a tasteless miscreant wantonly smashed this beautiful vase to pieces, but it has been since so admirably restored that the fractures in it are hardly perceptible.

Adjoining the Egyptian Room is the *Bronze Room,* containing Payne Knight's valuable collection of bronzes. In the British Museum are also to be found relics excavated from the long-buried cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum; a large collection of British antiquities, including many Roman remains tesselated pavements, &c.: collections of coins and medals, and a print-room, containing justly-admired specimens of the Flemish and Dutch schools, together with the works of Hollar, Hogarth, Sir Joshua Reynolds, and other illustrious native artists. The various departments of Natural History are well represented, and the objects are arranged in a very simple but scientific manner. The east gallery contains birds and shells, and the walls are decorated with numerous portraits, among which may be named two of Cromwell; Mary, Queen of Scots, by Jansen; Elizabeth; Charles II., by Lely; Peter the Great; Charles XII., and Thomas Britton, the musical small coal-man, the founder of modern concerts. The northern zoological gallery principally contains reptiles, such as lizards, serpents, crocodiles, &c., amphibia, fishes, &c. The larger mammalia are removed to a new saloon for mammalia in the east wing near to the bird-room. The gallery above the library, on the north side of the north wing, is appropriated to the collection of minerals and fossils. The minerals collected by the late Mr. Charles Greville were purchased by parliament for £13,727. The whole are disposed in cabinets, containing 550 drawers.

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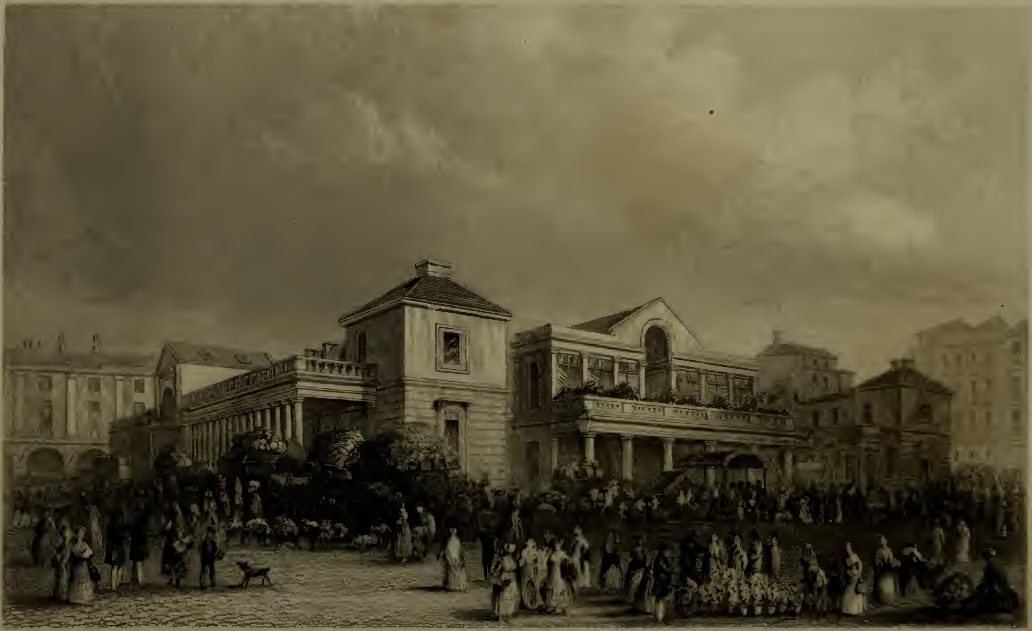
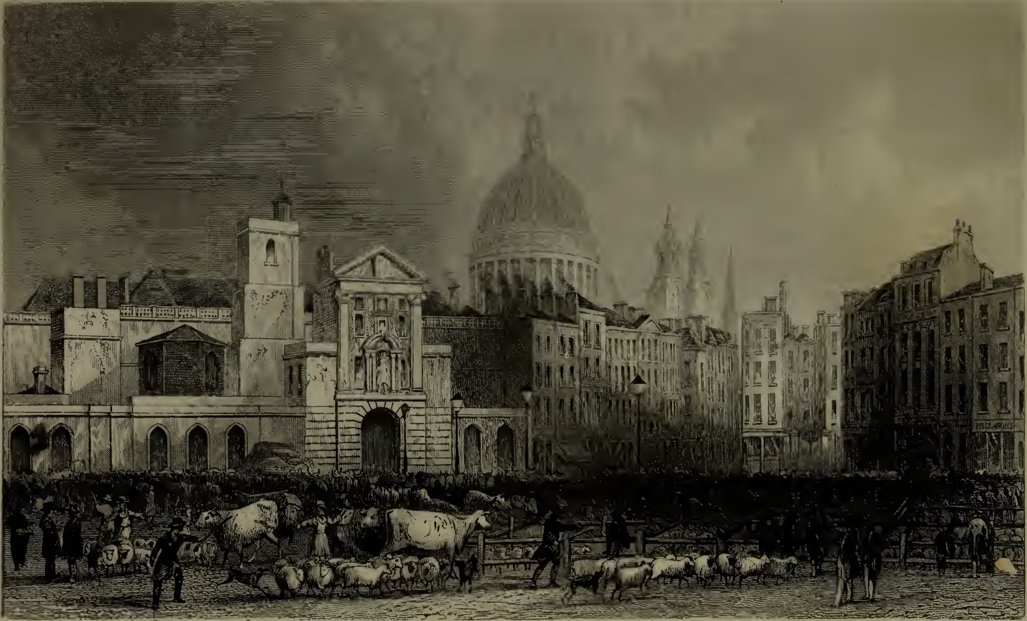
* Cunningham.

Of the multitudinous treasures of which the British Museum is the national depository, there are none to surpass the comprehensive and valuable library which has been formed by the munificence of individuals and by parliamentary grants. Immense additions have also been made to it under the provisions of the Copyright Act, by which every publisher is compelled to deliver to the British Museum a copy of every new book, pamphlet, or newspaper, published by him; a heavy penalty being inflicted for non-compliance. Among the most valuable presentations of books were, the Royal Library of the kings of England by George II.; the library formed by George III., consisting of 63,000 volumes, given by George IV.; a fine collection of rare and valuable editions of the classics, numbering 4,500 volumes, bequeathed by the Rev. C. Cracherode; the scientific library of Sir Joseph Banks, including 16,000 volumes; and in 1846 the library of the Right Honourable Thomas Grenville, the gathering together of which cost him £54,000. Where not a day passes without many additions being made to the books, it is difficult to state the number of volumes it contains up to the most recent date. The latest account states that the Library of Printed Books contained about 500,000 bound books, which, probably, comprehended nearly a million of distinct works. Besides these there are between 30,000 and 40,000 manuscripts. The *Reading Room,* the entrance to which is from Montague-place, Russell-square, was first thrown open to the public on the 15th of January, 1759, and in the July following only five persons could be found to avail themselves of its privileges. In 1844 the number of visitors to the Reading Room was estimated to reach 70,000. Catalogues of printed books and manuscripts are kept in the reading-rooms for the convenience of students, and here also are Dictionaries, Annual Registers, parliamentary papers, magazines, and works of reference, to which the readers may help themselves. To procure a work not kept in the reading-room, the catalogue must be consulted, and the press-mark, title, date, and size of the book, together with the name of the applicant, and the date, be transcribed on one of the printed forms which are suspended near the catalogues. This ticket is taken to a kind of bar at the west end of the room, and the books are presently brought by an attendant. The party reading must return the books before he quits the room, and obtain the corresponding tickets, being responsible for the books so long as the tickets remain uncancelled. The rooms are comfortably fitted up; pens, ink, and pads being provided for the visitors, and by means of hot-water pipes an equal temperature is preserved throughout the year. The reading-room is open from 10 to 4 during the summer months, and from 10 to 7 during the winter months. Sir Henry Ellis is the chief librarian. The British Museum is under the superintendence of 48 trustees, of whom 9 represent the Sloane, Cotton, Harley, Townley, Elgin, and Knight families, the remainder being members of the legislature or government. For its maintenance grants from parliament are periodically made. The public are admitted on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, between 10 and 4 o'clock, from the 7th of September to the 1st of May; and between 10 and 7 o'clock from the 7th of May to the 1st of September. It is open daily during the Easter, Whitsuntide, and Christmas weeks. The British Museum is closed in the first week of January, also of May and September, and upon Christmas-day, and other special holidays.

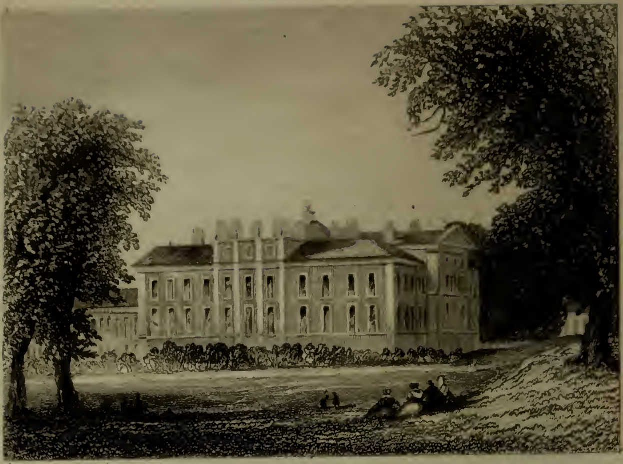
Great Russell-street, in which the national edifice just described is the principal object, is still a fine street of shops, offices, and private houses, extending from Bloomsbury-square into Tottenham-court-road. It was built in 1670, and was, in Strype's time, "graced with the best buildings in all Bloomsbury, and the best inhabited by the nobility and gentry, especially the north side, as having gardens behind the houses, and the prospect of the pleasant fields up to Hampstead and Highgate." Returning through Museum-street, we enter *Broad-street, St. Giles,* which joins High Holborn. The appearance of Broad-street corresponds with its name, and it is at present the most convenient approach to the church of *St. Giles-in-the-Fields.* The original church is supposed to have belonged to a hospital for lepers founded early in the 12th century, by Matilda, queen of Henry I. Another church was erected in 1623, and consecrated by Archbishop Laud. This structure was taken down in 1730, and the foundations of the present edifice laid. The architect was Henry Flitcroft, and the new church was opened for divine service in 1734. The steeple is 165 feet high. Over the gate is a curious piece of sculpture, intended to represent the Last Day, containing many figures, and set up in 1686. In the churchyard and vaults are buried George Chapman, who translated Homer into English verse; Lord Herbert of Cherbury; James Shirley, the poet; Richard Penderell, in whose house Charles II. found



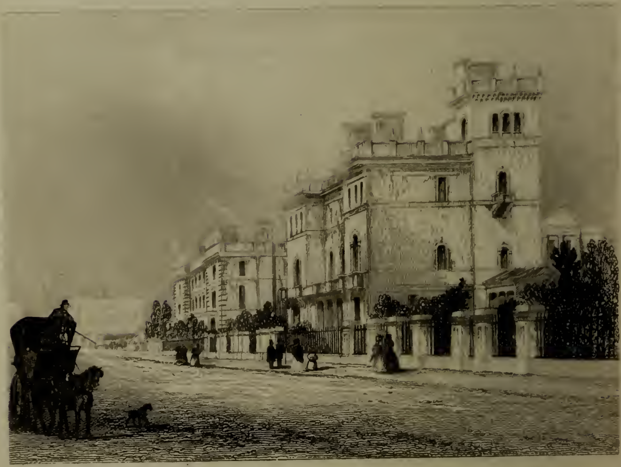
COVENT GARDEN MARKET



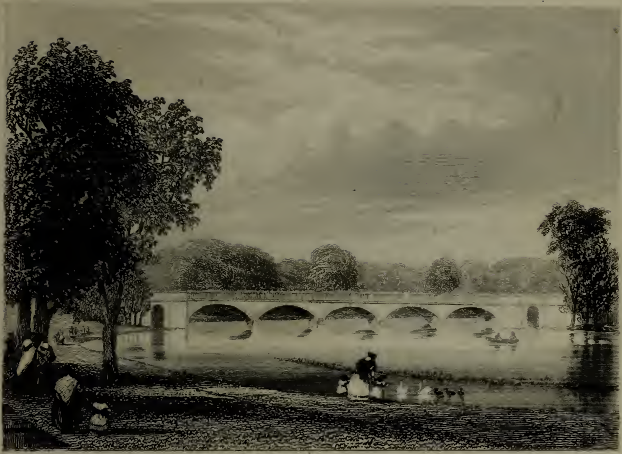
SMITHFIELD



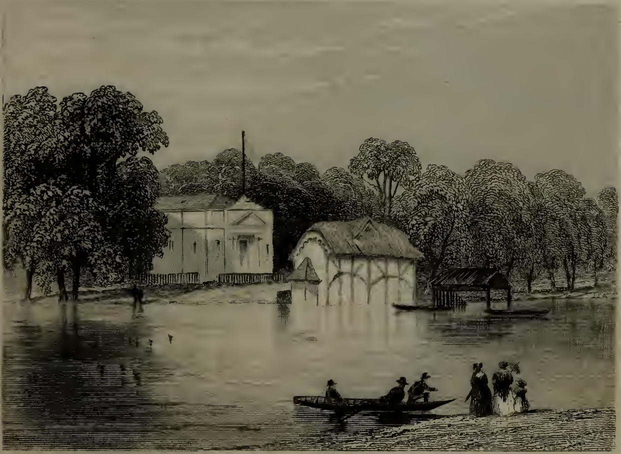
KENSINGTON PALACE



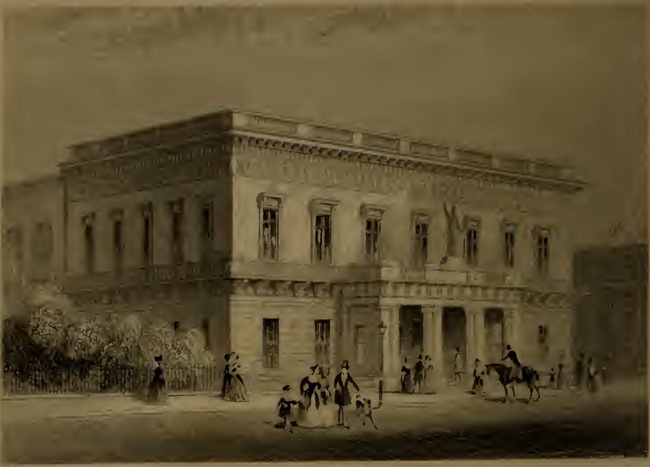
QUEENS ROAD PALACE GARDENS BAYSWATER



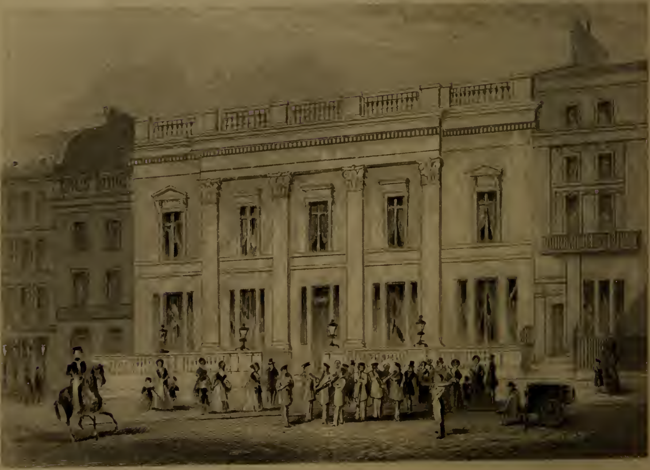
BRIDGE OVER THE SERPENTINE.



ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY SERPENTINE.



THE NEW ATHENÆUM
Waterloo Place



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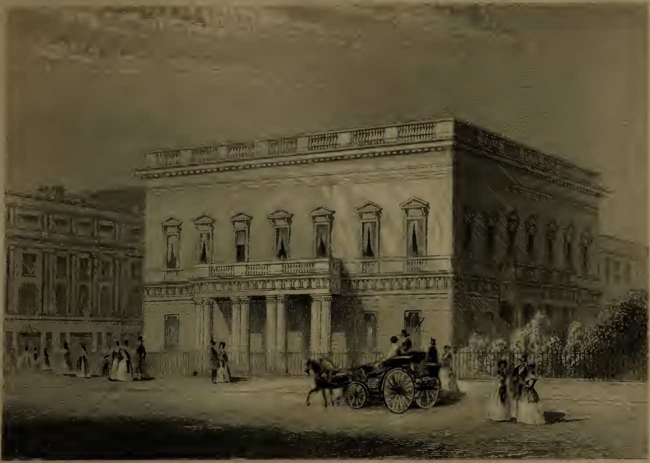
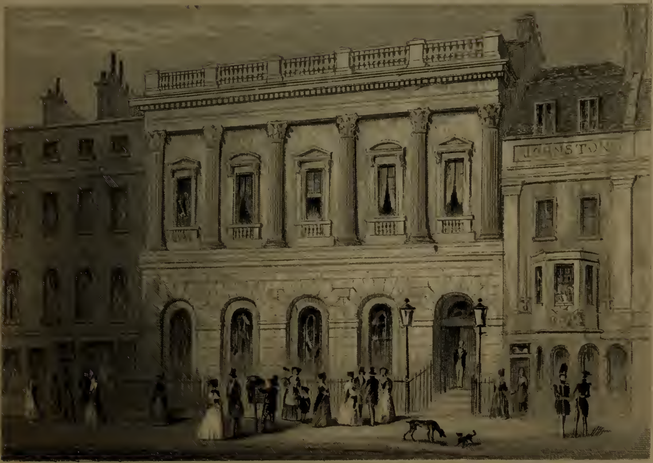
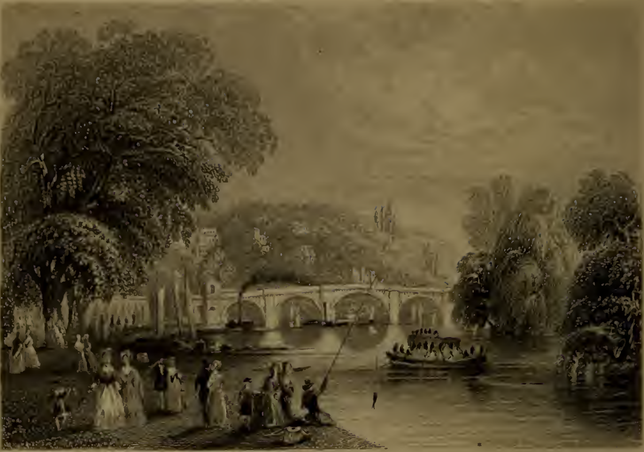


NEW UNITED SERVICE CLUB HOUSE

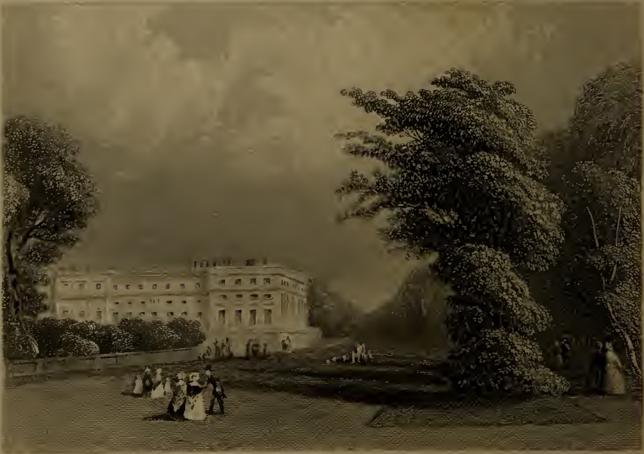


ARTHUR'S CLUB HOUSE

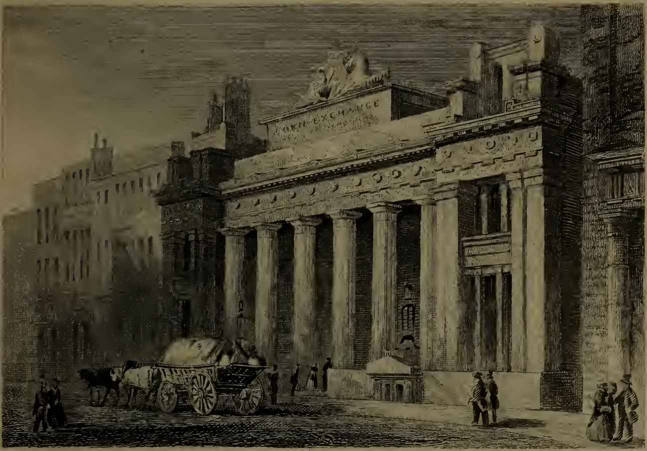
(St. James's St.)



RICHMOND BRIDGE



HAMPTON COURT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THE CORN EXCHANGE

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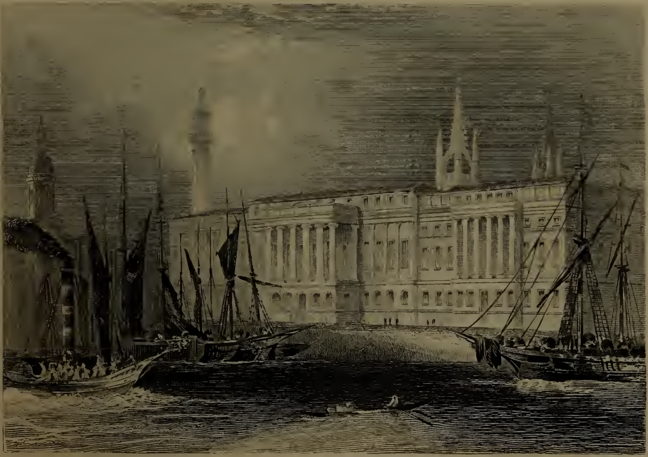


THE CUSTOM HOUSE

a secure asylum after the battle of Worcester; Andrew Marvel; the shameless Countess of Shrewsbury, who, Mr. Cunningham writes, "held the horse of Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, while the duke killed her husband in a duel;" and Sir Roger L'Estrange. Where *High-street* now stands the hospital above referred to was situate. By Edward III. it was made a cell to Burton St. Lazar, in Leicestershire, and when the religious houses were abolished, the hospital was granted by Henry VIII. to John Dudley, Earl of Warwick and Duke of Northumberland, decapitated in 1553. In 1413 the gallows was removed from Smithfield, and transferred to the north-end garden-wall of the hospital between High-street and Hog-lane, now *Crown-street.* On this spot Sir John Oldcastle (Lord Cobham), suffered death, ostensibly as a rebel, but in reality for professing the doctrines of Wycliff. He was suspended to a gallows by a chain fastened round his body, and then burnt alive. "At this hospital," writes Stow, "the prisoners conveyed from the city of London toward Tyburn, there to be executed for treasons, felonies, or other trespasses, were presented with a great bowl of ale, thereof to drink at their pleasure, as to be their last refreshment in this life." The remembrance of this funereal hospitality is perpetuated in a narrow court called *Bowl-yard*, on the south side of High-street, St. Giles. This shabby and narrow street runs across Oxford-street into Tottenham-court-road, but as we intend to enter these localities from a superior and better-frequented approach, we will here simultaneously suspend our journey, and close the chapter.

CHAPTER II.

NEW OXFORD-STREET—TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD—OXFORD-STREET—PANTHEON—PORTMAN-SQUARE—TYBURN—PADDINGTON—BAYSWATER—NOTTING-HILL, ETC.

We must retrace our steps for a short distance. At that point where the widest part of High Holborn is continued by New Oxford-street, we deviated in order to pursue the remaining part of this thoroughfare, in that direction where it effects a junction with Broad-street, St. Giles. *New Oxford-street,* a splendid pile of buildings similar in character to the erections in Regent-street, is of recent date, and has arisen upon courts and narrow streets in the rear of Holborn, Broad-street, and High-street, St. Giles. To form the more western portion of it, an execrable neighbourhood has been cleared away, lying between Broad-street and Tottenham-court-road, familiarly known as the *Rookery.* This labyrinth of dark and dismal alleys was, perhaps, not only the most wretched, but the most disreputable district in London. There, ventilation, sewerage, cleanliness, were sanitary adjuncts totally unknown, and in the miserable hovels of the Rookery whole families were huddled together in Hottentot promiscuousness. The lowest class of thieves also herded in this place, rendering its thoroughfare dangerous to thread either by day or by night; its pestilential atmosphere and questionable inhabitants imparting to it all the privacy of a royal residence. In fact, it was the modern Alsatia, a sanctuary for burglars and mendicants, a place before the transcendent blackguardism and revolting squalor of which the Mint, in Southwark, was compelled to "hide its diminished head." Many of our forefathers devoutly believed in the transmutation of viler metals into gold, but we can hardly fancy such a metamorphosis to have been more extraordinary than that which modern enterprise has effected in the Rookery; which metropolitan *Inferno* disappearing, in its place and on its site New Oxford-street, nearly the most magnificent street in the capital, arose in 1847. Much as some may regret the daily increasing size of the town, the gradual encroachments of brick and mortar upon every available open space and green spot, not specially protected from the Babel-founding spirit of the capitalist, surely in this instance it must be admitted that speculation has been employed at least as much for the benefit of the public as for that of the projectors, by removing every vestige of a noisome neighbourhood, and substituting in lieu thereof a spacious open street, abounding in all those salubrious and other advantages, never experienced by or contemplated in its gloomy precursor. This noble thoroughfare presents on either side a range of fine shops, and in the centre of the north side a very elegant promenade has been formed, known as *Oxford Bazaar,* to which there are several arched entrances from the street.

Arriving at the west end of this street, it is continued by Oxford-street, and at its northern corner *Tottenham-court-road* commences, to which it will be convenient to give precedence of description over Oxford-street.

Tottenham Court-road, a long and tolerably handsome road, extends from the eastern corner of Oxford-street to the New-road, whence the line of street is continued by the Hampstead-road, which we have already noticed. It is thus called from the fact of its having been formed as a market-road to Tothill, Totenhall, or Tottenham-court, referred to in the Domesday Book, and it originally belonged to the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's. Subsequently it became crown property, and eventually having undergone many changes of ownership, the fee simple of the manor became vested in the honourable Charles Fitzroy (afterwards Earl of Southampton), and his descendants, subject to an annual payment of £300 to the Prebendary of Tottenham. On the east side are several respectable streets communicating with the Bedford estate. *Bedford-street* runs into *Bedford-square,* a handsome pile of buildings named after the ducal family, and a favourite residence of many of our judges. The late Earl of Eldon resided here for eleven years. On the west side the streets branch into Oxford-street, Rathbone-place, and the vicinity of Fitzroy-square. On this side is the *Tabernacle,* a spacious chapel raised by subscription in 1756, for that religious but amiable enthusiast George Whitfield, one of the primitive founders of the sect of Methodists. His wife, who died in 1768, is interred in this chapel, and upon her monument there is a memorial to Whitfield, who however is not buried here, having terminated his earthly pilgrimage in 1770, at Newbury Port, Boston, North America, where his remains were consigned to the grave.

We continue the course of New Oxford-street and enter into *Oxford-street,* along a splendid line of street, in length one mile and-a-half, lying between St. Giles and Cumberland-gate, Hyde Park-corner, old Tyburn-turnpike being its ancient boundary. It owes its name to Edward Harley, Earl of Oxford, who became the husband of the only daughter and heiress of John Holles, Duke of Newcastle, who was possessed of the manor of Tyburne or Marylebone in 1710. Two years previously Oxford-street was known as Tyburn-road, and was then as celebrated a place as it is now, though in a different way. Now it is famous as an elegant promenade, as one of the arcana of the west-end shops; then it was chiefly noted for the frequent and melancholy spectacles of unhappy creatures travelling in the hangman's cart to the place of execution at Tyburn. A few years afterwards it was called by its present name, but the Oxford street of a century back was a very different place from the Oxford-street of 1851, the change being far more striking than that effected in Holborn and many othes leading thoroughfares in a similar interval. Pennant writes:—"I remember it a deep hollow road, and full of sloughs, with here and there a ragged house, the lurking-place of cut-throats."

On the north side of Oxford-street is *Rathbone-place,* a street of handsome shops, but which is chiefly interesting as illustrating the date of that street to which it is a tributary: on a stone inserted in the wall at the corner, the following inscription appears, "Rathbone-place in Oxford-street, 1718." In 1784 all the houses in Rathbone-place were private residences, and at an earlier period the unfortunate Jacobite noblemen, Lords Lovat, Kilmarnock, and Balmerino, lived here. Opposite to Rathbone-place *Charles-street* runs into Soho-square. Continuing along the south side of Oxford-street we reach *Wardour-street, Soho,* erected in 1686, and thus named after Henry, third Lord Arundel of Wardour, a nobleman who adhered to the fallen fortunes of James II. The description which Leigh Hunt gives of this street has been applicable to it for many years: "Wardour-street is famous for book-stalls and curiosity shops. Charles Lamb was fond of this street. I have heard him expatiate on the pleasure of strolling up Wardour-street on a summer's day." On the same side of the way a few yards beyond Wardour-street is the *Pantheon,* originally an opera-house and promenade, built after the designs of James Wyatt, and opened in January, 1772. The interior of this structure was destroyed by fire in 1792, and rebuilt, but not in its original style. The licence was subsequently lost, and the internal fittings were taken down in 1812. It was made a bazaar in 1834, the whole of the building, with the exception of the front and portico, being reconstructed under the superintendence of Mr. Sydney Smirke, at a cost of nearly £40,000. The noble hall is filled with stalls, where jewellery, music, books, toys, millinery, &c. are sold, there being up stairs a gallery where similar articles are also exposed for sale, and galleries adorned with pictures for disposal. Attached to the Pantheon, and leading to its entrance in Marlborough-street is a very beautiful conservatory, in which flowers, gold fish, and birds of the richest plumage, produce a very agreeable *tout ensemble.* A short distance beyond the Pantheon is *Argyll-street,* called after Argyll-house. At No. 30, in this street, resided the celebrated Madame de Staël. At the corner of Argyll-street is the *Green Man and Still,* an extensive coaching-office, whence throughout the day numerous short stage omnibuses and other conveyances run. Nearly facing is *John-street,* which, continued by *Portland-street* and *Portland road,* forms a direct thoroughfare from Oxford-street to the New-road. Crossing the second Regent-circus, which intersects Oxford-street, we arrive at *Holles-street* on the north side of the last-named street, running into Cavendish-square. It is so entitled after Henrietta Holles, heiress of John Holles, Duke of Newcastle, and consort of Edward Harley, Earl of Oxford. The admirers of poetry will regard this street with reverence as that in which the greatest poet of modern times, Lord Byron, first saw the light, in 1788. Opposite is a handsome gateway forming a chief entrance into Hanover-square. Pursuing the north side, and passing *Old Cavendish-street,* and *Chapel-street, Vere-street* is gained, which is called after the Veres, Earls of Oxford. Facing it is the Oxford-street opening of New Bond-street. *Marylebone-lane,* a proximate turning, running through some narrow streets into High-street, Marylebone, and thence to the New-road, was the ancient pathway through the fields from Brook-field (now the fashionable Brook-street), to Marylebone-park. *Stratford place,* the next opening on this side of the way, a series of noble stone mansions, but no thoroughfare, was erected in 1775 by Edward Stratford, Earl of Aldborough, upon ground belonging to the Corporation of London. "Here," says Mr. Cunningham, "stood the Lord Mayor's banqueting-house, erected for the Mayor and Corporation to dine in, after their periodical visits to the Bayswater and Paddington conduits, which supplied the City with water." Strype preserves a curious picture of a visit made by the Mayor to the conduit heads in the year 1562. "Before dinner they hunted the hare and killed her, and after dinner they went to hunting the fox; 'there was a cry for a mile, and at length the hounds killed him at the end of St. Giles'; great holloaing at his death, and blowing of horns.' The banqueting-house was taken down in 1737, and the cisterns arched over at the same time." The streets on the south side of this portion of Oxford-street are comparatively of little note, principally conducting to *Grosvenor-square, Brook-street,* and the immediate vicinity. The principal one is *North Audley-street,* stretching into Grosvenor-square, and continued on the other side of the square by *South Audley-street.* It was built in 1710, and called after the ground landlord, Mr. Audley. South Audley-street, erected twenty years later, has ever been a street of *ton.* Among its residents were Sir William Jones; General Paoli, the Corsican patriot; the Count d'Artois, afterwards Charles X.; and Queen Caroline, the wife of George IV. Beneath *Grosvenor Chapel,* in this street, lie the remains of Ambrose Philips, the pastoral poet; Lady Mary Wortley Montague; Lord Chesterfield, that Lycurgus of etiquette, who promulgated a new code of politeness in his *Letters*—politeness, however, which extended no deeper than the surface; and the famous demagogue John Wilks. Returning to the north side of Oxford-street, *Duke-street* extends to *Manchester-square,* in which is the residence of the Marquis of Hertford. This house was commenced in 1776; it was the first house in the square, and its first resident was the Duke of Manchester; afterwards that distinguished diplomatist Prince Talleyrand inhabited the house, which eventually became the property of ths Marquis of Hertford. The entire square was not completed till 1788. Ascending Oxford-street we turn up *Orchard-street* and enter *Portman-square,* one of the most beautiful and noble-looking squares even in this aristrocatic region. It was commenced in 1764, at which time its northern side was only covered, twenty years elapsing before the whole was completed. It was built upon the ground of William Henry Portman, Esq. of Orchard Portman, near Taunton, in Somersetshire, the family from which it takes its name, being members of the peerage. Many years ago, this and the adjacent land belonged to the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, and the estates were called *Great Gibbet-field, Little Gibbet-field,* and by other names. On the north-west corner of the square is *Montague House,* the residence of the late Mrs. Montague, an eccentric but benevolent woman, and the writer of a Vindication of Shakspere against Voltaire. Here annually, on the 1st of May, Mrs. Montague threw open her elegant saloons, and gave a sumptuous entertainment to the little chimney-sweeps of the metropolis, determined that they should enjoy one happy day in the year. Pity it is that no artist has preserved a representation of this sooty assemblage, which would have afforded as much scope for the pencil as many a prouder banquet immortalized on canvass. Resuming our progress through Oxford-street, and passing by some other streets which do not require individual mention, we reach the end of this very long street, which is joined by *Hyde Park-place,* opposite Cumberland-gate, Hyde Park; and from this point a series of elegant rows and terraces flank the Bayswater-road on the north side; Hyde Park and the walls of Kensington Gardens extending on the south side for a considerable distance.

We have reached the *ultima thule* of the fashionable hemisphere; yet so recently as 1783, the spot now graced by the .elegant pile of buildings, *Connaught-terrace,* opposite Cumberland-place, was the locality of the Tyburn gallows; the close of a long series of executions on which took place on November 7th, 1783, one John Austin being the last individual offered up to the offended laws on a spot destined henceforth to be, not the altar of justiciary sacrifice, but the unapproachable shrine of fashion. Wonderful are the changes which time effects: the former neighbourhoods in which the great and powerful delighted to abide have now become common-place, unattractive, and in many instances, the residences of the humblest among the community; and places which were heretofore insufferable nuisances, and the haunts of the thief and the vagrant, are now crowded with the luxurious habitations of wealth and high rank. Park-lane, originally styled Tyburn-lane, May-fair, St. James's-square, and other spots to which we have extended our observations, illustrate these singular changes of character. By way of contrast to the present aspect of Cumberland-gate, with its beautiful marble arch, a brief narrative of its olden associations, when Tyburn was the prevailing name of the locality, will not, perhaps, be uninteresting. On the spot occupied by Connaught-terrace, as we have stated, the Tyburn gallows was erected, an ungainly object which is said to have been placed there so far back as the reign of Henry IV. This instrument of execution was commonly called the Tyburn-tree, or Deadly Never Green. The etymology of Tyburn is variously attributed, and Fuller thus accounts for the term, a statement worth transcribing, as at all events it indicates for what class of alleged offenders the gallows was erected here:—"Tieburne," he says, "some will have it so called of from tie and burne, because the poor Lollards for whom this instrument (of cruelty to them, though of justice to malefactors,) was first set up, had their necks tied to the beame, and their lower parts burnt in the fire. Others will have it called from Twa and Burne, that is two rivulets which it seems meet near to this place." In form the gibbet was triangular, and executions were of such frequent occurrence during its ascendancy, that it was never thought worth while to remove it. In the reign of Henry VIII. the Holy Maid of Kent was executed at Tyburn. Here also suffered Southwell the poet; Felton, the murderer of Villiers, Duke of Buckingham; Colonel Hacker, and five others of those who signed the death-warrant of Charles I.; and other state offenders. In 1724, Jack Sheppard, the prison-breaker, was hung here, a crowd of 200,000 persons assembling to witness the exit of this clever rascal, who after resting in obscurity for more than a century, has been canonized and made a demigod for the edification and admiration of posterity; men of literary attainments not disdaining to be the high priest and eulogist of this model housebreaker. A year afterwards the notorious Jonathan Wild suffered here, and among other remarkable malefactors who terminated their career at Tyburn were Lord Ferrers for the murder of his steward; Mrs. Brownrigg for flogging two female apprentices to death; Dr. Dodd, an eminent divine, for forgery; and Ryland, an accomplished engraver, for employing his art to commit a forgery on the East India Company. Even the dead have suffered indignities at Tyburn, for to the eternal shame of Charles II., the bodies of Cromwell, Ireton, and Bradshaw, were hung on the first anniversary of the execution of Charles I., (January 30th, 1661), on the three wooden stilts of the Tyburn gibbet. The bodies were torn from their graves in Henry the Seventh's Chapel, Westminster Abbey, and taken by night to the Red Lion-inn, Holborn. On the following morning they were drawn in sledges to Tyburn, and there in their shrouds and cere-cloths, suspended till evening from the several angles of the gallows. The unconscious objects of this ghastly spectacle were then taken down, and decapitated, their bodies interred under the gibbet, and their heads transfixed on poles over Westminster Hall. Truly a pitiful and impotent revenge! However small the sympathy we can feel with the regicides, however criminal we may consider their unwarrantable seizure of power, and condemnation of their sovereign,—to drag them from their sepulchres and to mutilate their lifeless remains, was an unkingly act, and a cowardly retaliation, little calculated to inspire love for the restored dynasty, or reverence for royalty.

The tendency of fashionable society to centralize itself in the western parts of the metropolis has converted Tyburn and its vicinity into one of the most elegant and *recherché* districts in which the abodes of rank are situate, not even surpassed by the attractive drives ana promenades of aristocratic Belgravia. At the corner of Hyde Park-place is *Edgware-road,* leading to Edgware, and which passes Paddington, Maida-hill, and other populous neighbourhoods. Between the Edgeware-road and Paddington some turnings that branch to the west conduct to *Cambridge-square* and *Oxford-square,* two small but first-class squares. *Paddington* is a thickly inhabited suburb, although sixty years back it did not contain 400 houses. The formation in 1801 of the Paddington Canal, which joins the Grand Junction Canal, and in 1838 of the London terminus of the Great Western Railway, have contributed not only to add to the buildings and population, but to render that part of the township in the direction of the railway a favourite *locale* of the titled and rich. *Church-street* leads to *Paddington-green,* adjacent to which is the parish church erected in 1791, near the site of an earlier place of worship. Paddington-green has still some claims to its rural name, but the daily increase of buildings in this quarter threaten to render it a green only in name. Hence, on the left *Harrow-road* passes. We have now reached the depôt of the Great Western Railway, crossing a bridge of which we enter a spacious and handsome avenue of stately houses called *Bishop's-road,* extending to *Westbourne-grove,* Nottingham-hill, and the country beyond. *Trinity Church,* a building in the florid style is a great ornament to this road. From the south side of Bishop's-road, *Eastbourne-terrace, Westbourne-terrace,* and *Gloucester-road,* comprehending double rows of elegant mansions stretch towards Hyde Park. Twenty-five years back green fields covered the site of that fashionable region which has since sprung up to the west of the railway, and given such additional importance to Paddington.

Proceeding no further in this direction, we return to Hyde Park-place, and continue along the high road, from which we have diverged for a short time. On the north side of the road are approaches to numerous handsome squares and streets of modern erection, of which *Hyde Park-square*, *Hyde Park-gardens*, *Sussex-square*, and *Gloucester-square* are the principal. Beyond is the pleasant territory of *Bayswater*, in Paddington parish, the greater part of which is now filled with fine and expensive houses. It was formerly renowned for its springs, reservoirs, and conduits, and was the source to which the chief part of the City of London was indebted for water. That portion of Bond-street built upon the City land was in 1795 supplied with water from the Bayswater conduit. Bayswater also abounded in tea-gardens, but the increased value of ground in this neighbourhood is fatal to the prolonged existence of these popular resorts of the middle classes. Bayswater is joined by *Notting-hill*, which has acquired the population and the extent of a small town within the last twenty years. Lysons states that its name is derived from the manor of Knotting-bernes, Knutting-barnes, sometimes written Notting or Nutting-barnes, the estate of Vere, Earl of Oxford, condemned for treason in the reign of Edward IV. Time will not permit us to extend our journey on the Uxbridge-road, but we can assure those who feel disposed to make further research in this direction, that there is not a more varied and beautiful country near the metropolis than this line of road, and that a drive or ride to the pretty little market-town of Uxbridge will be attended with gratification.

Having dwelt with some amplitude on the neighbourhood north of the bridges, it now behoves to make a transpontine excursion, and briefly notice the most attractive points on the Surrey side of the Thames.

CHAPTER III.

SOUTHWARK — BERMONDSEY — ST. SAVIOUR'S CHURCH — BARCLAY AND PERKINS' BREWHOUSE—BANKSIDE —THE MINT — QUEEN'S PRISON — HORSEMONGER-LANE GAOL — THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE—ST. GEORGE'S-CIRCUS—ST. GEORGE'S-FIELDS—BETHLEHEM HOSPITAL, ETC.

The *Borough of Southwark* stretches southward from London Bridge to Newington Butts; to the south-west almost to Lambeth; and to Rotherhithe and Bermondsey in the east. It contains five parishes, viz.—St. Saviour, St. Olave, St. John, Horselydown, St. George, and St. Thomas. The Saxons called it Suthverke, or the South Work, after some fortification bearing that aspect from London; it was also denominated the Borough or Burg. The earliest historic account of Southwark refers to the occasion of Earl Godwin sailing up the Thames to assail the royal fleet of fifty ships, moored before the palace of Westminster; this took place in 1052, when it is written that he went *ad Suthwecree,* and stayed there till the return of the tide. Southwark was long independent of the City of London, but it affording an asylum to murderers, robbers, and other malefactors, who, after the perpetration of crimes in the city, fled to this place, where the civic officers had no power over them, Edward III., on the petition of the citizens, made a grant, in 1327, of the village of Southwark to the city, in consideration of an annual payment of £10 to the crown. This grant his successor Richard II. refused to confirm, because that it interfered with the privileges enjoyed by certain religious houses within the borough. Not till the time of Edward VI. was the borough again made part of the City of London. Upon the crown receiving a valuable consideration, it was formed into a twenty-sixth ward, under the title of *Bridge Ward Without,* and Sir John Ayliffe, citizen barber and surgeon, was its first alderman. Since then the dimensions of Southwark have increased to a very great degree, and the term of Bridge Ward Without is only applicable to that part which is called the Borough, or High-street. In describing Southwark, we cannot, as we have done in our reviews of London and Westminster, notice consecutively its leading streets and the ramifications thereof; still Southwark, as a place of great antiquity and modern traffic, contains many points of attraction deserving brief notice. In former days, when the venerable bridge of London was the only land thoroughfare in the metropolis across the Thames, Southwark was the great high road from Dover, and, indeed, the only avenne by which from the Surrey side the City could be entered. Hence those magnificent processions and regal pageants of which in olden times it was frequently the scene. Of these none were more interesting than the calvacade of pilgrims, who were wont at certain seasons to make a pilgrimage from London to Canterbury to lay their offerings upon the costly shrine of that arrogant prelate, but canonized saint in the Roman calendar, Thomas à Becket. In consequence of such processions, High-street in the borough abounded in taverns and inns. The *Talbot Inn* at No. 75, is the relic of the old *Tabard Inn.* The word *Tabard* means, a sleeveless coat open on both sides, with a square collar, and winged at the shoulders, worn by persons of rank in the wars, with their arms painted on them that they might be known. The term is now only used in heraldry. This inn was the favourite rendezvous of the Canterbury pilgrims, whom both art and poetry have contributed to immortalize. Chaucer makes particular mention of this inn whence he says he departed in company with nine-and-twenty jolly pilgrims to the tomb of Becket. In 1676 the sign of the inn was changed from the Tabard to the Talbot, and over the gateway this inscription was subsequently placed. "This is the inn where Sir Jeffry Chaucer, and nine-and-twenty pilgrims, lodged, in their journey to Canterbury, in

1383." No part of the original inn remains, but of the existing building much was built in the age of Elizabeth. It has long ceased to be a resort of distinction, being merely at the present time a stopping-place for waggons and vans.

But though gay shows and brilliant processions nc longer grace the Borough, though it is no longer the leading highway to the court of London, it may be said to have regained of late years all that importance as a great thoroughfare by which it was anciently distinguished. Passenger traffic has increased in an immense proportion, since modern enterprise has rendered Southwark the seat of the termini of several of our leading railways. The approaches to New London Bridge from the south have much improved the aspect of High-street, a noble avenue of lofty and elegant shops and offices having been made between the Town-hall and the Bridge. To form this, the whole of the western side of High-street was taken down. On the east side *Duke-street,* a short but handsome street, running parallel with the approach to the railway stations, conducts to *Tooley-street;* the original name of this street was *St. Olave's-street,* and strange as it may appear, *Tooley* is a corruption of *St. Olave;* the street in the progress of such perversion of name being called *St. Tulies-street.* On the north side of Tooley-street is the church of *St. Olave,* erected upon the site of the ancient building in 1739, the architect being Henry Flitcroft, by whom the church of St. Giles-in-the-Fields was built. The original church was founded many hundred years ago, and was named after St. Olaves, or Olaf, a Danish prince, who was murdered by his pagan subjects.

Bermondsey-street joins Tooley-street, and at its south end (in the parish of *Bermondsey,*) there was a priory dedicated to St. Saviour, founded by Alwine Child, a citizen of London in 1081. In 1094 William II. endowed it with the manor of Bermond's Eye, an ancient property of the crown. In this religious house Catherine, the queen of Henry V. died. Upon the dissolution of monasteries the manor was sold to Sir Thomas Pope, who pulled down the church, and erected a large house upon its site, which afterwards became the family residence of the Earls of Sussex, by whom a parish church was built. *Bermondsey-square* indicates the spot formerly occupied by the ancient priory. There are a great number of tan-yards in Bermondsey; also a large leather market. Notwithstanding that the railway arches, and other buildings have considerably encroached upon the fields and gardens of Bermondsey, still there are few places so proximate to town, offering so pleasant and so rural an appearance.

Returning to Southwark we notice the very beautiful church of *St. Saviour,* on the west side of High-street, and opposite to the railway approach; its original name was St. Mary Overy. The religious house of St. Mary Overy is said to have been established long before the Norman conquest, by a maiden named Mary, for sisters, and endowed with the profits of a ferry across the Eye or river Thames. A noble lady named Swithen, afterwards converted it into a college of priests, and in 1106 it was refounded by William Pont de l'Arche, and William Dauney, Norman knights, for canons regular. Henry VIII. took possession of it in 1540, bestowing on its last prior a pension of £100 a year. It was purchased from this king by the inhabitants of Southwark, who also obtained a charter, by which the churchwardens were made a corporation. At the same time the chapel of St. Mary Magdalene, was added on the south side to enlarge it, for the accommodation of a populous parish. It seems that these parties determined to make a worldly speculation of their purchase, for they actually let out a portion of this magnificent church of St. Mary Overy, as a common bakehouse. "The fair pillars," says Strype, who laments the manner in which that part of it now known as the Lady Chapel was desecrated, "were ordinary posts against which they piled billets and bairns. In this place they had their ovens, in that a bolting place, in that their kneeding trough; in another, I have heard, a hog's trough; in another a storehouse to store up their hoarded meal; and in all of it something of this sordid kind and condition." For more than sixty years in this solemn temple, intended as a resort for those who humbly seek the Bread of Life, did the bakers continue to make the "bread that perisheth." This church was rebuilt in the year 1400, and when Henry VIII. seized its revenues, and disposed of them, the two parishes of St. Margaret and St. Mary Magdalen, in Southwark, were united, and the church of the priory of St. Mary Overy made the parish church, and called by the name of St. Saviour's. Of the old church nothing remains except the choir and the Lady Chapel, the former being restored in 1822, and the latter in 1832. The church consists of three aisles running from east to west, and a cross aisle after the manner of a cathedral. It is in the Gothic style. The roof of the body and the chancel are sustained by twenty-six pillars, those of our Lady's new chapel with six smaller pillars, and that of the former church of St. Mary Magdalen, on the south side, by six pillars, like the last. Its length from the altar to the iron gates is 126 feet, from that gate to the west end of the church 71 feet, and from the altar to the east end of the Lady chapel 72 feet; the whole length 269 feet, and the whole breadth 54. Many eminent persons have been buried in this church, among whom may be named the early English poet John Gower, one of its chief benefactors, and a contemporary of Chaucer; Fletcher, the dramatic poet, who died of the plague; Sir Edward Dyer, also a poet of reputation; Edmund Shakspere, brother to the great dramatist; and Philip Massinger, one of the greatest dramatic poets of this country.

The epitaphs in this church are very singular; some of them no better than advertisements of the stock in trade left by the deceased; others offering most fulsome tribute to the imputed virtues of the departed; and some few moral, and suited to the place and the occasion. Among the latter is the inscription on the monument of Richard Humble, his two wives, and children. It is worth transcribing, and runs thus :—

Like to the damask rose you see,
Or like the blossom on the tree,
Or like the dainty flower of May,
Or like the morning of the day;
Or like the sun, or like the shade,
Or like the gourd which Jonas had:
  Even so is man, whose thread is spun,
  Drawn out and cut, and so is done;
The rose withers, the blossom blasteth,
The flower fades, the morning hasteth,
The sun sets, the shadow flies,
The gourd consumes, and man he dies.

In the rear of St. Saviour's Church, in Park-street, Southwark, is the brewhouse of *Barclay and Perkins,* of which Mr. Peter Cunningham furnishes a very concise and interesting description. He informs us that it was founded by Henry Thrale, the friend of Dr. Johnson, and sold by Johnson to his brother executor, in behalf of Mrs. Thrale, for £135,000. Barclay was a descendant of the celebrated Barclay, author of the *Apology of the Quakers,* and Perkins was the chief clerk in Thrale's establishment. The brewhouse in Park-street is now the largest of the kind in the world. The buildings cover 10 acres, and the store cellars contain 126 vats, varying in their contents from 4,000 barrels down to 500. In the year ending 1850, the malt consumed reached the immense quantity of 115,542 quarters.

Those noble institutions for the relief of the sick and for the amelioration of the evils which disease brings, Guy's and St. Thomas's Hospitals, are situate in Southwark, but we do not propose to notice them here, reserving an account of them for another portion of this work, in which the leading hospitals will be named collectively.

Bankside, Southwark, on the south side of the Thames, extending from that point of the river near St. Saviour's Church to the Surrey end of Blackfriars, now offers ample evidence of capital, commerce, and manufacturing industry, it being covered with warehouses and wharfs. Very different was the aspect which it presented in early times, when it was the chosen resort of dissipation. Not to dwell on some of its more offensive peculiarities, it will suffice to state that here stood a royal garden or amphitheatre for the exhibition of bear and bull baiting; until towards the close of the reign of William III. To this place Queen Elizabeth invited the French ambassadors to amuse them with the savage spectacle. That pleasant chronicler, Pepys, relates with much satisfaction his visits to this place, where he "saw some good sport of the bulls tossing the dogs; one into the very boxes." This Bear Garden was called Paris Garden, and was let on lease to Henslowe, and Alleyne, the founder of Dulwich college. Under their management it was sometimes converted into a theatre. At a subsequent period the manor of Paris Garden was formed into a parish, and a church founded, under the name of Christ.

Perhaps the most interesting memorials of Southwark are those connected with the *Globe Theatre*, on the Bankside, the summer theatre of Shakspere. It was built in 1594, was of an hexagonal shape without, and open to the weather except that part of it immediately over the stage, which was thatched. The interior was circular in form. In 1613 it was consumed by fire, and soon afterwards rebuilt, James I. and his nobility contributing chiefly towards the cost. Here Shakspere, Fletcher, Hemmings, and other actors of the time performed, and some of the great poet's plays were originally represented on the boards of this theatre. This interesting memorial of the Augustan age of the drama was taken down by Sir Matthew Brand in 1634, and houses built upon its site. *Globe-alley*, a mean, long, and narrow court, is named after it, and partly indicates the ancient neighbourhood of the theatre.

The Bishops of Winchester, who were lords of the manor of Southwark, had their palatial residence in this borough. The episcopal residence was built in 1107 by William Gifford, Bishop of Winchester, and called Winchester House. This house, before it fell into decay, was one of the most magnificent in the city or suburbs of London. With the other buildings connected with it, it occupied in front most of the Bankside, called Clink-street, and had an open view of that part of the Thames where wharfs and warehouses now cover the bank. This edifice was composed of two courts, with offices and other messuages. On the south, beautiful gardens enriched with the most exquisite statuary, and where numerous fountains played, and an extensive park were its boundaries, and the monastery of St. Saviour was its eastern limit; the Paris garden being its western one. In 1663 an act of parliament was passed, authorizing the then Bishop of Winchester to let Winchester House, in Southwark, on lease, and erect a new episcopal residence. The bishops then removed to Chelsea, and old Winchester House, after passing through many changes, became converted into warehouses and magazines for corn. In August, 1814, a fire broke out, which destroyed the ancient Gothic hall of the house, and exposed some of the gorgeous architecture to view. The alterations which this portion of Southwark has undergone since the foundation of the bridge and the widening of High-street, have left hardly a memorial of the once powerful and admired Winchester House.

Descending High-street we reach the *Town Hall*, in which the borough sessions, over which an alderman presides, are held. Some distance lower down, on the west side, is that miserable squalid neighbourhood the *Mint*, composed of several narrow, dark, and dirty streets and alleys, for which the sanitary commission exists in vain. If the stranger in London is anxious to gain some idea of the unenviable peculiarities by which the extinct Rookery was marked, if he desire to see the appearance which Field-lane and its avenues presented before modern improvements invaded that sanctuary for the fraternity of pickpockets and the receivers of stolen property;—if the visitor in London would behold the features of these rabble neighbourhoods, let him perambulate the Mint in Southwark. Originally the ground on which it stands was covered by the princely residence of Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, who married Mary Tudor, sister of Henry VIII., and died in 1545. Suffolk House was subsequently called Southwark-place. In course of time a Mint was established here for the king's use, and the cottages and houses which were built upon the site of this great house, after its destruction, were called the Mint. For many years the Mint continued an asylum for fraudulent debtors, and many persons who took refuge here with their effects, could set their creditors at defiance; and it also became the favourite locality of individuals, like the modern Socialists, too obtuse to distinguish between the laws of *meum et tuum*, and whose fraternal propensities led them to appropriate the goods of their neighbours whenever opportunity offered. Sometimes a needy poet sought in the garret of the Mint the inspiration of the Muse. Here the luckless Nahum Tate, poet-laureate to Queen Anne, and who with Brady composed the metrical version of the Psalms, now used in our churches, died in the year 1716, in the most abject poverty. Opposite to the Mint is the parish church of *St. George the Martyr*. The present edifice was raised in 1736 by John Price, on the ground covered by the former. In St. George's Church it was customary to bury prisoners who died in the King's Bench Prison and the *Marshalsea*, an ancient prison for debtors in Southwark, and now consolidated by an act of parliament in the reign of Queen Victoria with the Queen's Prison, (the King's Bench), and the Fleet. The cruel Bishop Bonner, who died in the Marshalsea after an imprisonment of several years, was buried here; as was Rushworth, author of the *Collections*, who died in 1690, at the age of 83, in the King's Bench Prison; and Edward Cocker, the celebrated arithmetician, whose name has become a proverb for arithmetical accuracy. In the old church, Monk, the first Duke of Albemarle, was married to Nan Clarges, the daughter of a blacksmith in the Strand. This church stands at the corner of *Kent-street,* a worthy neighbour of the Mint, and formerly the only avenue from the Borough into the Kent-road. Smollett says, "it would be for the honour of the kingdom to improve the avenue to London by way of Kent-street, which is a most disgraceful entrance to such an opulent city. A foreigner in passing this beggarly and ruinous suburb conceives such an idea of misery and meanness, as all the wealth and magnificence of London and Westminster are afterwards unable to destroy. A friend of mine who brought a Parisian from Dover in his own post-chaise, contrived to enter Southwark when it was dark, that his friend might not perceive the nakedness of this quarter." The evil of which the novelist complains no longer exists, a wide and handsome opening, called the *New Dover-road,* lined on either side with handsome houses, stretching into the Old Kent-road.

Blackman-street joins High-street, and extends to Newington-causeway. At the south-west corner of this street is the *Borough-road,* running to St. George's-circus, in the Blackfriars-road. On its north side is the *Queen's Prison,* the largest prison for debtors in the metropolis. It is chiefly appropriated to the confinement of debtors, although persons convicted of libels and misdemeanours are sometimes confined here. When a prison for the court of Queen's Bench was first erected in Southwark is unknown, but it was formerly customary for the court to be held in different places, and the prisoners to be confined in the nearest gaol. That there has been a prison in or near this spot some centuries we learn from Stowe, who states, that in the reign of Elizabeth several persons died there of what was called the "sickness of the house," which was occasioned by a great number of the prisoners being confined in very small apartments. The Queen's Prison is surrounded by a lofty wall, surmounted by a che vaux de frise, and contains numerous rooms arranged like chambers in the law inns. The debtors confined here comprehend ordinary debtors, and debtors who are sent back for dishonesty, and for placing obstructions in the way of their creditors; and of these some maintain themselves, while others are supported at the national expense. Visitors are allowed to go through the prison from nine in the morning till evening. Formerly prisoners who could give the necessary security were permitted, during term, to go out for the day, and others were allowed to purchase the privilege of living outside the walls within a certain district called the Rules. The Rulers, as such fortunate captives were called, had the range of Blackman-street, a part of High-street, and St. George's-fields. The debtor did not always confine himself to these limits, for when an application was made some years ago to the Lord Chief Justice for an extension of the rules, he replied that they were extensive enough, for that, to his knowledge, they reached to the West Indies. By the act which consolidated the Queen's Bench, the Fleet, and the Marshalsea prisons under the name of the Queen's Prison, all fees, the liberty of the rules, and day rules, were abolished. This prison is under the control of an officer called the Marshal. On the south side of the Borough-road is a large brick edifice called *The British and Foreign School Society*. It is founded on the Lancasterian system, and is open to children of all persuasions. Opposite to the Borough-road is *Horsemonger-lane*, the principal building in which is the *Surrey County Gaol*, built in 1781, at the suggestion of the philanthropist, John Howard. It is a prison in which debtors as well as criminals are incarcerated. That portion of it set aside for the debtors is miserably "cramped, cabined, and confined." For the criminals there are ten wards, to each of which a yard and day-room are attached. At the top of the prison, on the north side of the lodge, is the place of execution, to which the convict has to ascend by a narrow, winding, and dimly-lighted staircase. Colonel Despard and his accomplices were executed here, for high treason, in 1803, and in 1849 two remarkable murderers, Manning and his wife, whose crime, and circumstances attending upon it, were the topic of the day, suffered here the last penalty of the law in the presence of a vast mass of spectators, amongst whom were several ladies of title, who employed their opera-glasses for the very foreign purpose of witnessing the dying agonies of the unfortunate wretches, in whose death struggles they did not blush to look for amusement. Adjacent to this prison, in Newington-causeway, is the *Sessions-house,* where misdemeanours are tried, and the assizes for the county are sometimes held. From Horsemonger-lane several streets run into the Old Kent-road.

Blackman-street is joined by *Newington-causeway,* a wide street of business, terminating at the *Elephant and Castle.* This inn, situate at the head of Walworth, between the Walworth and the Kennington-roads, occupies a central point, and is a station whence coaches and omnibuses are continually running to and from all parts of town. Here several cross-roads meet; those on the south extending to Kennington, Clapham, Brixton, Streatham, &c.; Camberwell, Peckham, Dulwich, Norwood, &c.; on the south-west to Vauxhall, Nine Elms, Battersea, Wandsworth, &c.; on the east to Deptford, Greenwich, Blackheath, &c.; on the north to London-bridge; on the west to Lambeth, Westminster-road, and Charing-cross. Prior to the formation of railroads the Elephant and Castle tavern was much frequented, and a favourite point of departure for all persons travelling south from London. We shall have occasion to return to it as a central position whence we can best direct our readers into those numerous and many beautiful localities to be found within a few miles of it on the Surrey side of the water. West of the Elephant and Castle is the *London-road,* leading to *St. George's-circus,* whence it is one of the several roads that branch; the other roads radiating from this centre are the Borough-road, the Blackfriars-road, the Waterloo-road, the Westminster-road, and the Lambeth-road. In the middle of the circus is a stone column called the *Obelisk,* erected in 1771, in honour of Brass Crosby, Esq., Lord Mayor of London. Upon its sides the distances from Fleet-street, London and Westminster bridges are marked. The circus covers a portion of *St. George's-fields,* originally a large piece of marsh land, but which the embankment of the Thames and draining rendered valuable property. From this ground tesselated pavements, coins, and bones have been taken, affording satisfactory proofs that it was in remote times the seat of a Roman encampment. St. George's-fields were named after the adjacent church of St. George the Martyr, and appear once to have been marked by all the floral beauty of meadows, uninvaded by London smoke. We learn from Mr. Cunningham, that Gerrard came here to collect specimens of his *Herbal.* "Of water violets," he says, "I have not found such plenty in any one place, as the water ditches adjoining too St. George his fielde near London." In Wilkinson's *Londina Illustrata* is copied the following inscription on a stone inserted in the front of Finch's Grotto Gardens:—

Here herbs did grow
And flowers sweet,
But now 'tis called
St. George's street.

Political mobs were wont to assemble here even as early as the days of Charles I., and the rioters who, under the guidance of that madman, Lord George Gordon, burnt the Roman Catholic Chapels, Newgate, and other public buildings, made these fields their principal rendezvous in 1780. In fact, with seditious assemblages of past centuries St. George's-fields appear to have been considered pretty much a similar arena of turbulence to that which modern malcontents impotently endeavoured to convert Kennington-common. The Dog-and-Duck tea-gardens in these fields was a favourite place of amusement, to which the Londoners were accustomed to stroll on a Sunday. These fields have long since disappeared; the days of their vernal beauty are told, and their decline in rural sports is thus lamented by James Smith:—

"Saint George's fields, are fields no more;
The trowel supersedes the plough;
Swamps, huge and inundate of yore,
Are changed to civic villas now."

Even this description has ceased to be applicable. Perhaps the following stanza, though less poetic, would be to-day a more faithful character of St. George's-fields:—

Thy "civic villas," witty Smith,
Have fled as well as woodland copse;
Where erst the water-lily bloomed,
Are planted rows of brokers' shops.

On the site of the Dog-and-Duck tea-gardens is the *School for the Indigent Blind.* The entrance is from St. George's-circus, at the corner of the London and Lambeth-roads. Over the noble gateway of this institution is the representation of a pelican feeding her young with her own blood. The institution was first founded in 1799, and the present building erected in 1808, and subsequently more than once enlarged. It affords accommodation to 85 males and 89 females, who are here maintained and instructed in basket-making, the manufacturing of mats, hearth-rugs, clothes-lines, &c. Some of them who manifest taste, receive a musical education sufficient to qualify them to fill the profession of an organist. Those eligible for admission to this charity must not be less than ten years of age, nor exceed twenty-five, and they must be so utterly deprived of vision as to be unable to distinguish light from darkness. The annual outlay for the maintenance and education of the indigent blind reaches £8,000, a portion of which is obtained from investments, from the sale of the work of the pupils, and from the revenues of the school. The large garden attached to this institution for the recreation of the inmates has lately been much curtailed, a part of it having been let for building purposes, thus adding considerably to the income of the school.

In Lambeth-road, St. George's-fields, the very splendid Roman Catholic cathedral, dedicated to *St. George*, and the largest church of the Roman Catholic faith built in England since the ascendancy of Protestantism, occupies, with some adjacent buildings, a large plot of ground which was for many years the resting-place of wandering showmen, and presented a most desolate appearance. This ecclesiastical edifice is of the Gothic order, and was built by Mr. A. W. Pugin, in the style of Edward III. It was commenced in 1840, and opened in 1848. It is without galleries, and will hold 3,000 persons. The width of the nave is 28 feet, the aisles 18 feet, and the length, exclusive of the chancel and tower, 160 feet; the chancel is 43 feet in depth, with stalls on either side. When the tower and spire are completed they will be 227 feet high. A convent and a presbytery house adjoin.

Nearly opposite St. George's cathedral, situate at the point where the Lambeth and St. George's-roads unite, is that extensive Lunatic Asylum,

BETHLEHEM HOSPITAL,

familiarly called Bedlam. The first Bethlehem Hospital was a priory between Bishopsgate and Moorfields, dedicated to St. Mary of Bethlehem, and founded by Simon Fitz-Mary, sheriff of London in 1247, for a prior, canons, brethren, and sisters of a peculiar order. They were to be dressed in a black habit, and distinguished by a star on their breasts. In 1523 Stephen Gennings, merchant tailor, bequeathed £40 towards the purchase of this hospital for the reception of insane persons. In 1545 Henry VIII. bestowed it on the city of London, by the authorities of which it was converted into a lunatic asylum. The old hospital was taken down in 1675, and another one erected in Moorfields. The bad condition of the entire building, and its close and confined situation denying the advantages of air and exercise, it was determined to re-erect the hospital on a more eligible site. Accordingly the Moorfields asylum was taken down in 1814, and the first stone of the new hospital in St. George's-fields laid in 1812. It was opened for the reception of patients in 1815. The new building, including the House of Occupation, covers 14 acres of ground, it being one of the conditions of the lease that the hospital should be capable of accommodating 200 patients, and that not fewer than eight acres of land should be appropriated to their use. It was built after the design of James Lewis, and consists of a centre and two wings. The centre is surmounted by a cupola, by Sydney Smyrke, and the entrance by an Ionic portico of six columns, sustaining the royal arms. The total cost of the building was £122,572, of which £72,819 were grants of public money, £23,766 were from the funds of the hospital, £14,873 accumulated as interest during the progress of the work, besides various amounts from several public companies and individuals. The wings, for which the government advanced £25,144, are appropriated to criminal lunatics. In 1837 the male criminal wing was enlarged, and since that time very considerable additions have been made to the hospital. The extreme length of the building is 569 feet. It contains galleries 219 feet long for male and female patients in the basement, on the ground-floor, and on the first and second floors. On the third floor of the central building there is a fifth gallery, in which incurable patients are confined. The lunatics are divided into three classes; the furious and mischievous being placed in the basement; ordinary patients, and those who are promoted from the basement, are on the first floor; and the second floor is set apart for those who are progressing towards recovery. In 1849 there were 450 beds in the hospital, and in the same year it contained 330 patients, the annual number averaging 400. The comforts of the unhappy class of persons confined here are attended to in the most commendable manner. The women, Mr. Cunningham says, are supplied with pianofortes, and the men with billiard and bagatelle tables. There is little to indicate the mad-house beyond the bone knives in use, and a few cells lined and floored with India-rubber and cork, against which the most frantic patient might strike his head without the possibility of injury. Until the commencement of this century Bedlam was an exhibition to which the public were indiscriminately admitted, a common promenade, like the middle aisle of old St. Paul's or the Royal Exchange. Nat Lee, the dramatic poet, was confined in Bedlam, the Duke of York, afterwards James II., defraying the expense. "Upon the verge of madness," says Dryden, "he made a sober and witty answer to a bad poet, who told him 'it was an easy thing to write like a madman.' 'No,' said Lee, 'it is very difficult to write like a madman, but it is a very easy matter to write like a fool.'" Margaret Nicholson, who attempted to shoot George III., died in this hospital in 1828, after an incarceration of 42 years. The days of admission to Bedlam are on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, an order to see which can only be obtained from a governor.

Although it is making a wide departure from the neighbourhood in which we now find ourselves, yet, for the sake of concentration, it will perhaps be held desirable to associate with our notice of Bedlam a brief description of

HANWELL LUNATIC ASYLUM,

generally called the *Middlesex County Lunatic Asylum.* It is established at Hanwell, eight miles and-a-half from Hyde Park Corner, was commenced in 1828, and opened for patients in 1831. The building was raised by Mr. William Cubitt, and calculated to accommodate 300 persons. It was soon discovered that the asylum was totally inadequate to meet the demands for admission, and it consequently underwent, at various times, considerable enlargement. Its inmates have now increased to the astounding number of 965, besides which there are nearly 100 officials and domestics resident on the establishment. The grounds comprehend 84 acres, disposed as a farm, a garden, an orchard, shrubberies, and airing grounds, while the asylum buildings cover four acres. Mechanical restraints are entirely abandoned in this institution; watchfulness, kindness, and forbearance are substituted. Nearly 1,000 lunatics may be seen employed in household or agricultural pursuits, or amusing themselves in the beautiful grounds by which the asylum is surrounded. The patients are furnished with books, bagatelle-boards, draughts, dominoes, cards, and musical instruments; and some of them have every facility afforded for drawing and painting. In 1849 the number of patients who had been admitted into the asylum since its opening, in 1831, were 3,255. Of these 801 had been cured, 171 relieved, 1,320 had died, and 963 remained.

To return to St. George's-fields. On the west side of St. George's-road, between Bedlam and the Elephant and Castle, is the *Philanthropic Institution*, at the back of the School for the Blind. It was incorporated in 1806, and receives children who had been engaged in criminal offences, or who are the offspring of convicted felons, providing the objects of its care with suitable employment, and training them to habits of virtue and industry. Workshops have been erected for the employment of the children. The boys are instructed in printing, bookbinding, shoemaking, and other trades, and the girls are taught needlework, and otherwise are supplied with the necessary qualifications to enable them to undertake household duties.

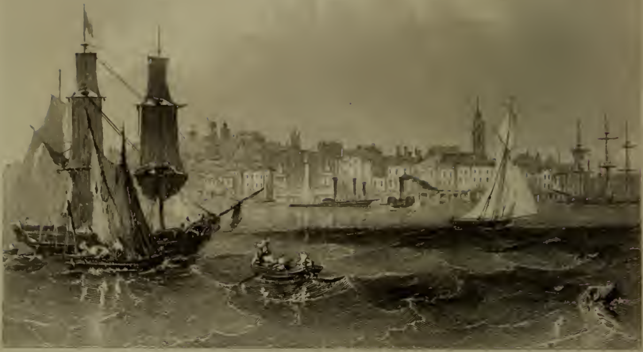
Thus, St. George's-fields, although they have long since ceased to be meadows, have become the seat of some of the most valuable and beneficent institutions with which the metropolis teems, and in this respect they merit a higher report than they did in those palmy days, when they offered the aspect of a rural plain, rich in wild flowers, and with no other roads than green lanes.

CHAPTER IV.

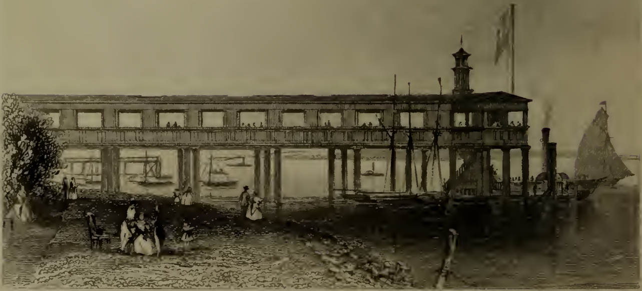
BLACKFRIARS-ROAD — MAGDALEN HOSPITAL — WATERLOO-ROAD — WESTMINSTER-ROAD — STANGATE — PEDLAR'S ACRE, ETC.

THE roads converging to St. George's-circus from several of the bridges, as great thoroughfares from Middlesex into Surrey demand some notice. Of these the *Blackfriars-road* is the longest. It obviously owes its name to the ancient and royal precinct of Blackfriars, but has no part in the associations of that monastic and courtly spot, being of comparatively recent formation, and owing its existence to Blackfriars' Bridge, to which it forms a noble approach. It is nearly a mile in length, and was originally called the Great Surrey-road. Entering the road on St. George's-circus, and passing the Surrey Theatre on the west side, we reach that estimable institution the *Magdalen Hospital*, first founded in 1758 by the Rev. Dr. Dingley, and then kept in Prescot-street, Goodman's-fields, whence the institution was removed about 1760 to its present situation. Here thousands of young women who have strayed from the paths of virtue have found a secure asylum, whence the great majority have departed to be restored to their friends or to be placed in respectable situations. No female is discharged from this hospital except at her own desire, or for misconduct, until means have been provided for enabling her to earn a creditable subsistence. The hospital consists of four brick buildings enclosing a quadrangle, with a garden in the centre. The chapel is octangular in form, and is open on Sundays to the public, who are expected to contribute to the maintenance. In conjunction with Dr. Dingley, Henry Fielding and the unfortunate Dr. Dodd were the original promoters of this charity, where Dodd was the first to fill the office of evening lecturer. Almost the earliest mention of Dr. Dodd is in connection with the Magdalen Hospital. Horace Walpole, in a letter to George Montague, Esq., dated January 28th, 1760, thus describes a visit to the institution: "A party was made yesterday to go to the Magdalen House. We met at Northumberland House at five, and set out in four coaches. Prince Edward, Colonel Brudenel, his groom, Lady Northumberland, Lady Mary Coke, Lady Carlisle, Miss Pelham, Lady Hertford, Lord Beauchamp, Lord Huntingdon, old Bowman, and I. The chapel is small and low, but neat, hung with Gothic paper and tablets of benefactions. At the west end were enclosed the sisterhood, above one hundred and thirty, all in greyish brown stuffs, broad handkerchiefs, and flat straw hats, with a blue riband, pulled quite over their faces. As soon as we entered the chapel the organ played, and the Magdalens sung a hymn in parts; you cannot imagine how well. Prayers then began, psalms, and a sermon; the latter by a clergyman, one Dodd, who harangued entirely in the French style, and very eloquently and touchingly. He apostrophized the lost sheep, who sobbed and cried from their souls; so did my Lady Hertford and Fanny Pelham, till I believe the city dames took them both for Jane Shores. The confessor then turned to the audience, and addressed himself to the royal highness, whom he called most illustrious prince, beseeching his protection." Nineteen years afterwards this eloquent preacher who thus admonished the erring, unmindful of his own precepts, forged a bond in the name of his pupil, the Earl of Chesterfield, for £4,200, an offence for which he suffered death at Tyburn.

In the middle of the Blackfriars-road, on the east side is *Surrey Chapel,* an octagon structure, built in 1784, and for many years the scene of the ministrations of that eccentric but amiable pastor, Rowland Hill, by whose name it is also known. It is said to be capable of holding 5,000 persons; and has an organ remarkable for the sweetness of its tone, as well as for its extensive powers,



GRAVESEND



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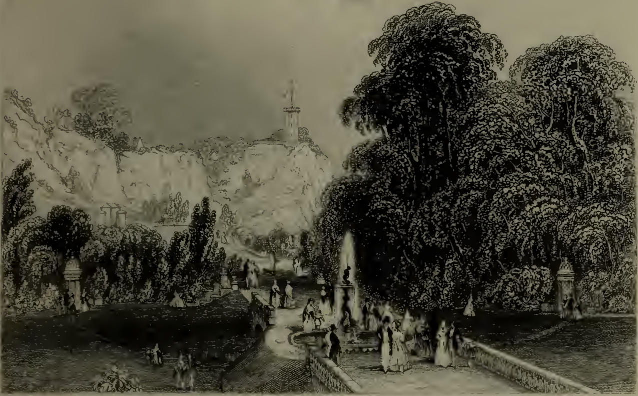
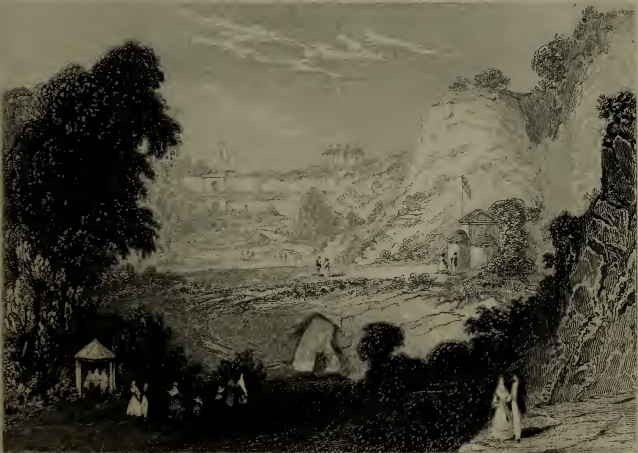
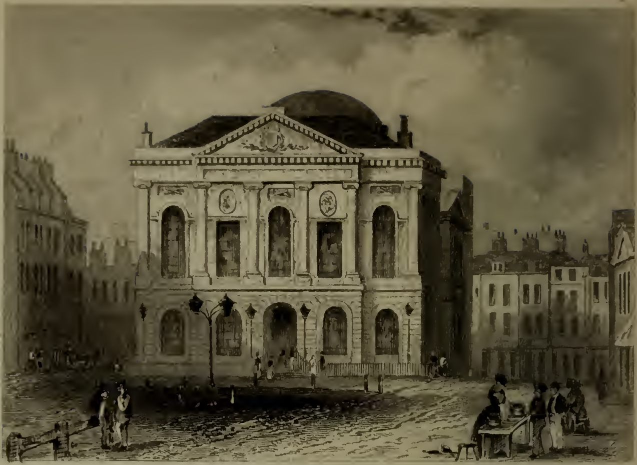


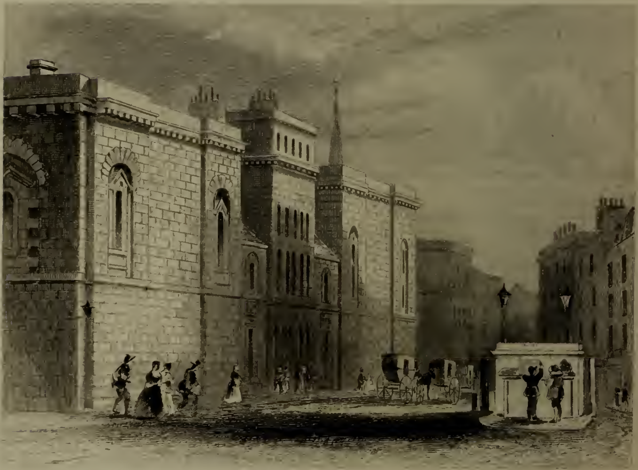
ROSHERVILLE GARDENS, GRAVESEND



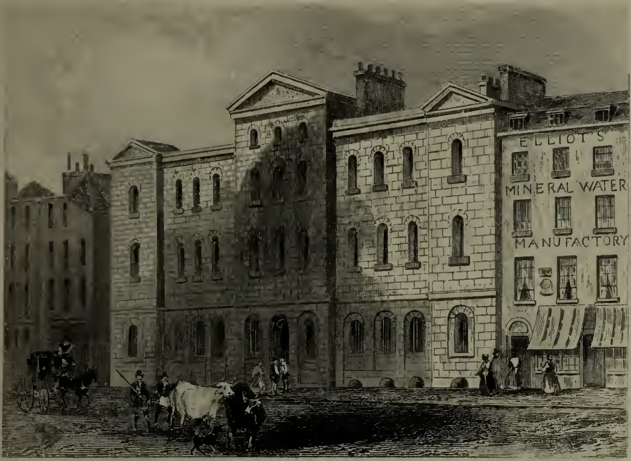
ROSHERVILLE GARDENS, GRAVESEND



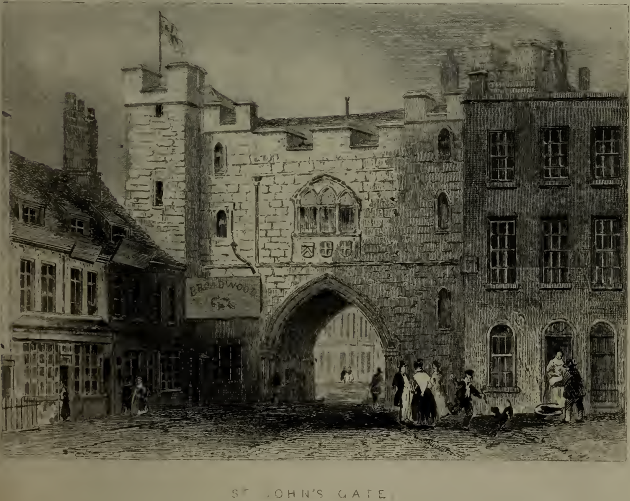
THE SESSIONS HOUSE,
Clerkenwell.



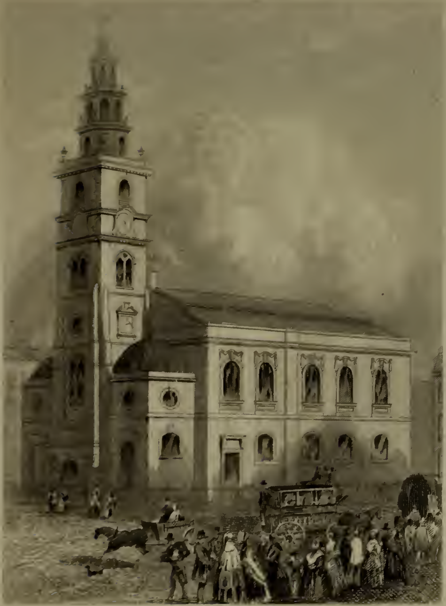
OLD BAILEY.


ELLIOT'S
MINERAL WATER
MANUFACTORY

GILTSPUR ST. COMPTER.



ST. JOHN'S GATE,
Clerkenwell.



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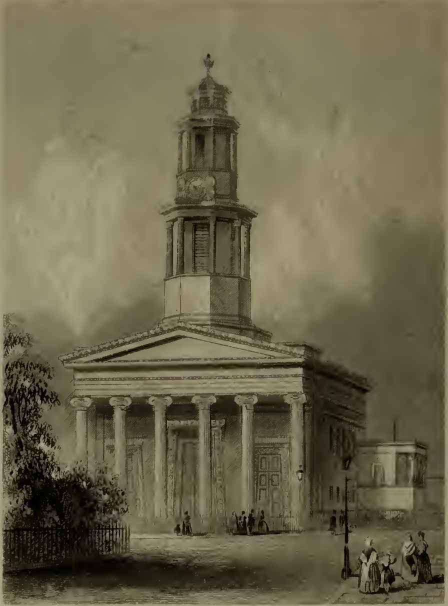

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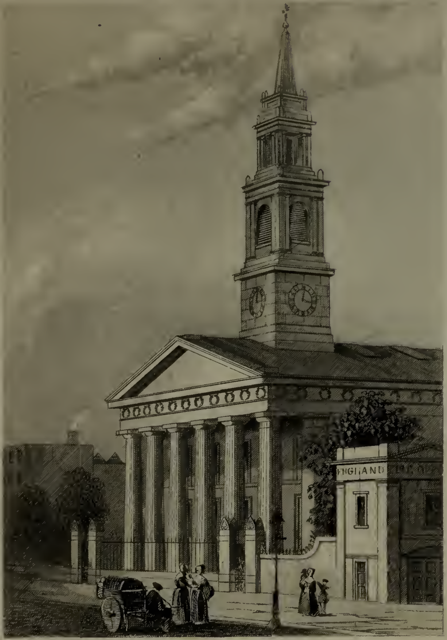

NEW CHURCH.

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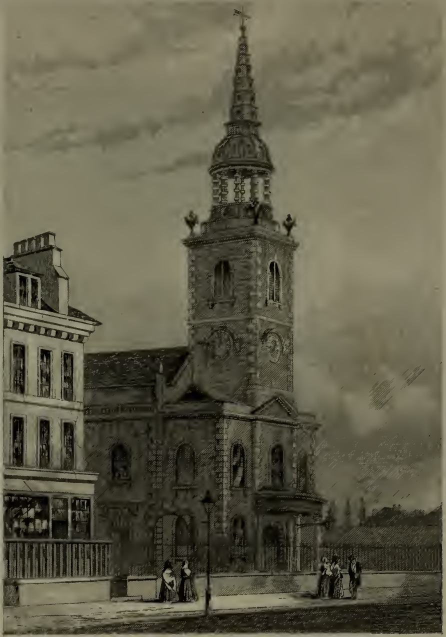

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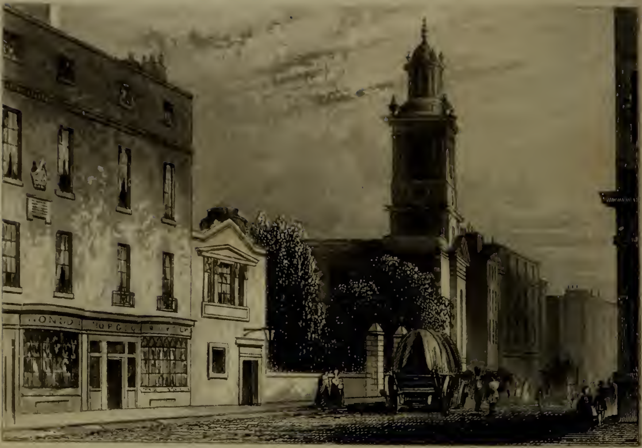

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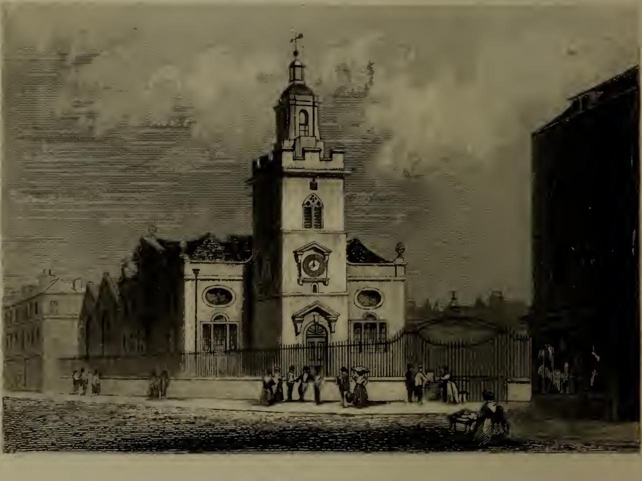

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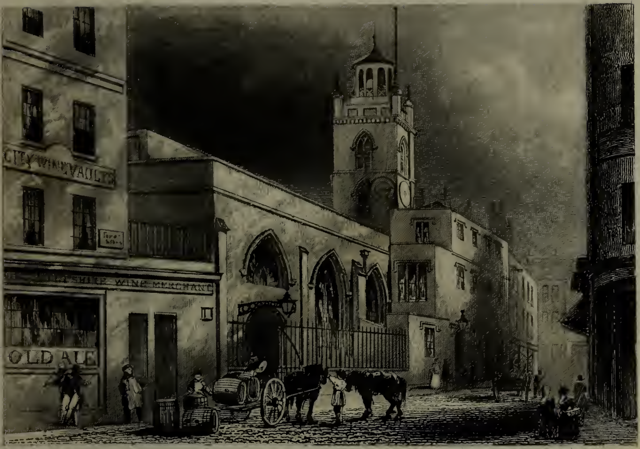
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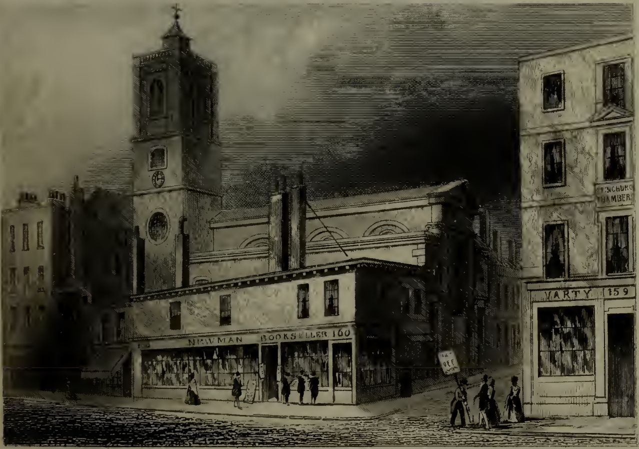
OLD ALE

CRIPPLEGATE CHURCH


NEWMAN
BOOKSELLER 160
FENCHURCH CHAMBERS
VARTY
159

St. DIONIS BACKCHURCH,

Fenchurch St.

which are so great, that during its accompaniment to one of the hymns descriptive of thunder, several of the congregation fainted, overpowered by the intensity of the music.

Opposite to the chapel is *Charlotte-street,* leading to the *New-cut,* the emporium of brokers'-shops, and abounding in stores more ancient than curious, more varied than valuable, and presenting a wonderful contrast to Bond-street. The New-cut is continued by *Lambeth-marsh,* a provision neighbourhood, the Surrey prototype of Clare-market, which extends to the Westminster-road. Ascending the Blackfriars-road we come to *Christ-church,* on the west side, which gives its name to a small parish, between that of St. Saviour's, Southwark, on one side, and that of Lambeth on the other. *Gravel-lane,* a lane in the rear of the east side of the Blackfriars-road, running towards the Borough, divides this parish from St. Saviour's. Pursuant to the provisions of the will of Mr. John Marshall, of Southwark, who bequeathed £700 for the purpose, the original church was erected in 1671, a part of the manor of Paris Garden being selected for the site. The foundation having been found damp, the church was taken down, and the present one erected in 1737. A short distance beyond is *Stamford-street,* a wide and handsome street, extending from the Blackfriars-road to the Waterloo and Westminster Roads, and covering ground which, so recently as thirty years back, presented fields and market-gardens. Nearly opposite is *Holland-street,* an avenue to Bankside, the features of which we have already named. Blackfriars-road ends at *Albion-place,* two rows of handsome recessed buildings, and shadowed in summer by the abundant foliage of one or two trees, insulated from their species, and not the less agreeable to the eye from the relief which they present to the surrounding wilderness of masonry.

Waterloo-road is of still more recent construction than Blackfriars-road, not forty years having elapsed since this populous and improving locality was divided into fields and gardens. The upper portion of this road cuts through the very centre of the spot once occupied by a famous place of amusement, *Cuper's Gardens, Lambeth.* These gardens were established by one Boyder Cuper, a gardener in the family of Thomas Earl of Arundel. When Arundel House, in the Strand, was pulled down, he begged some of the mutilated statues, with which he ornamented his gardens. Fireworks, prettily planted walks, and other attractions upheld for a considerable time their popularity; but at length the resort becoming more disreputable than select, it was suppressed in 1753. The spot was next appropriated to Beaufoy's vinegar and British wine works. Of the latter Pennant says:—"The art was most successfully revived several years ago by Mark Beaufoy, and the foreign wines most admirably mimicked. Such is the prodigality and luxury of the age, that the demand for many sorts exceeds in a great degree the produce of the native vineyards. We have skilful fabricators who kindly supply our wants. It has been estimated that half of the port, and five-sixths of the white wines consumed in our capital have been the produce of our home wine presses." Upon the formation of Waterloo Bridge, Beaufoy's works were removed to South Lambeth, and trees, fields, ponds, and gardens disappeared; the present Waterloo-road arising in their place, and forming, with the London-road, one continuous line from the Strand to the New Kent-road. The traffic on this road and receipts of the bridge have much increased since 1846, when it became the seat of the terminus of the South-Western Railway.

Westminster-road is a wide and handsome approach to Westminster-bridge, the second metropolitan bridge thrown across the Thames. In the angle of union which this road forms with the Kennington-road, is the *Female Orphan Asylum,* founded by Sir John Fielding in 1758, and incorporated in 1800. Here orphan girls are admitted at the ages of eight, and maintained till that of fourteen, when they are apprenticed or put out to service. Since its formation more than 2,500 children have been maintained, lodged, and educated. At Lambeth Marsh, an iron arch of the South-Western Railway traverses the road, the appearance of which it much injures. This unsightly obstruction is the monster nuisance of the Westminster-road, but we apprehend that a railway company is too formidable an opponent for an inspector of nuisances to encounter. Ascending the road, on the east side is *York-road,* communicating with Stamford-street, and forming a continuous line to the Blackfriars-road. Passing Astley's Theatre we reach *Stangate,* on the same side of the way, now a crowd of houses of all sorts and sizes, adjacent to the river bank. It was once called Stanegate Ferry, and was built in 1357 for John de Shepey, a bishop of Rochester, forthe convenience of himself and retinue to pass into Westminster. Stukely, the antiquary, traces the ancient Roman way from Chester to Dover; through St. James's Park and Old Palace Yard to Stanegate and Canterbury, and thence to Dover and some other sea-ports. Opposite to Stangate is the *Belvidere-road* better known as *Pedlar's Acre,* abounding in timber-yards, stone-yards, &c., on the Thames' bank. This ground, Maitland writes, was "given by a pedlar, upon condition that his portrait and that of his dog be perpetually preserved in painted glass in one of the windows of the church (St. Mary's Lambeth), which the parishioners carefully perform, in the south-east window of the middle aisle. The painting may be still seen, and doubtless other parishes besides Lambeth would be glad to confer this kind of immortality upon benefactors disposed to follow the example of the ambitious but munificent pedlar.

CHAPTER V.

LAMBETH—SOUTH LAMBETH—THE TRADESCANTS—ST. MARY'S CHURCH—KENNINGTON—VAUXHALL, ETC.

Until the year 1846, Lambeth was perhaps the largest parish in England. On the death of Dr. D'Oyley, the rector, in the above year, it was divided into four parishes. Lambeth, which stretches along the south bank of the Thames, is sixteen miles in circuit; its boundaries are the Thames, St. George's Southwark, Newington Butts, Camberwell, Streatham, Clapham, and Croydon, and it is divided into North and South Lambeth. It is a place of great antiquity, and was rendered memorable in 1042 by the death of king Hardicanute, who, honouring a wedding feast with his presence, expired in the midst of the conviviality. Here too, Harold is said to have seized the vacant crown, and proclaimed himself sovereign. North Lambeth belonged to Goda, sister to William I., and successively the wife of Walter, earl of Mantes, and Eustace, earl of Boulogne. She presented her land to the see of Rochester, reserving to herself the patronage of the church. In 1197 Glanville, bishop of Rochester, transferred it by exchange to the see of Canterbury, keeping, however, to himself a small peice of land, on which he built a town residence called Rochester House. On the dissolution of religious houses, Rochester House fell into the hands of Henry VIII., who exchanged it with the bishop of Carlisle for certain houses in the Strand, when it was called Carlisle House. A school bearing the same name in *Carlisle-lane*, and taken down a few years since to make way for streets, indicated the exact site of this episcopal mansion. South Lambeth, in which Vauxhall and Stockwell are comprehended, was held by the monks of Waltham, from king Edward the Confessor, and king Harold. In *Turret House*, South Lambeth (still in being), John Tradescant, gardener to Charles I. and his son, resided. The elder was the first person who ever formed a cabinet of curiosities in England. Both father and son travelled through Europe, Turkey, Greece, Egypt, and other places, whence they collected the materials of the Tradescant museum. Pennant, referring to a catalogue of their collection, says:—"The collection of medals, coins, and other antiquities, appears to have been very valuable. Zoology was, in their time, but in a low state, and credulity far from being extinguished; among the eggs is one supposed to have been of the *dragon*, and another of the *griffin*. You might have found here two feathers of the tail of the *phœnix*, and the claw of the *rucke*, a bird able to *trusse an elephant*. In his garden at his house in South Lambeth, was an amazing arrangement of trees, plants, and flowers." This garden was in the South Lambeth-road, and its site is now covered by the Nine Elms Brewery. The collection came into possession of Elias Ashmole, the antiquary, by a deed of gift from the younger Tradescant, and by Ashmole it was removed to his museum at Oxford. The Tradescants were buried in Lambeth churchyard, where their tomb may still be seen.

Lambeth seems to have been in early times the favourite residence of many of the nobility. In High-street a pottery occupies the spot where the bishops of Hereford once owned a palace, and the intolerant Bishop Bonner, who died in the Marshalsea, is believed to have had a house in Lambeth-marsh. The dukes of Norfolk had a mansion in Lambeth, the site of which is now indicated by Hodges distillery. One of its residents was that duke who, incurring the displeasure of Henry VIII., was sent to the Tower, and condemned to die, the day for the infliction of the sentence being named. Death interposed to save this nobleman's life, by closing the career of the tyrant on the eve of that day which was to have been fatal to his victim. In the reign of Elizabeth Norfolk House was alienated from the Howard family, and from that period it fell into decay. Sir Noel de Caron, ambassador from the states of Holland to Queen Elizabeth and James I. for thirty-three years, erected at South Lambeth a mansion called Caron House. By Charles II. the house and its appurtenances were granted to the Earl of Clarendon, the Lord Chancellor. After the great fire of London the prisoners in the Fleet Prison became the temporary occupants of Caron House, the remains of which were taken down in 1809, and Beaufoy's vinegar and British wine manufactory have since arisen on the spot. *Lambeth Palace,* the seat for many centuries of the Archbishops of Canterbury, standing in solitary grandeur, the last survivor of the episcopal and baronial residences for which Lambeth was famed, as one of the most picturesque objects on the banks of the Thames, will be described in our river-voyage.

St. Mary's Church, the mother church of Lambeth, which is now (1851), undergoing extensive improvements, adjoins the palace, and has a plain tower, the architecture being Gothic, of the time of Edward IV. Mary d'Este, the unhappy queen of James II., having fled from Whitehall with her infant son, crossed the Thames, sought shelter within this ancient church for an entire hour from the rain of the inclement night of the 6th of December, 1688. Here she waited till a common coach, obtained from a neighbouring inn, arrived and conveyed her to Gravesend, whence she sailed, never again to look upon the country which had ceased to be the patrimony of her family. Here rest, among other eminent characters, Robert Scott, of Bawtrie, Scotland, the inventor of the leathern artillery; archbishops Bancroft, Tenison, and Secker; and Cuthbert Tunstall, Bishop of Durham in the reign of Queen Mary, and Thomas Thirlebye, first and only bishop of Westminster, who, when deprived of their sees by Queen Elizabeth, found an asylum in Lambeth Palace, where they died. Thomas Cooke, who translated *Hesiod* and Edward Moore, author of the tragedy of the *Gamester*, were also buried here.

Kennington, one of the precincts of Lambeth, and composed of several excellent roads, streets, and squares, has, from a very early period, been a royal manor. Here stood a royal palace where Henry III. assembled a parliament, where Edward III. kept his Christmas in 1342, and in which Henry V. sometimes resided. Upon the palace being removed, a manor-house was built upon its site, in which Charles I., when Prince of Wales, was accustomed to sojourn. The road in which the palace was situate was called *Prince's-road.* It is opposite to *Kennington-cross,* whence several roads branch, and offers anything but a royal aspect, the Lambeth Workhouse being at its western extremity. In 1604 Edward Alleyne purchased the manor of Kennington for £1,065, and five years afterwards sold it to Sir Francis Calton for £2,000. Afterwards it again became crown property, and is now part of the estates comprehended in the royal duchy of Cornwall. *Kennington Common,* a large open space of ground, about a mile in circuit, at the southern end of the Kennington-road, has at present few of the vernal attributes of the common. Here several of the ill-fated Jacobite insurgents of 1745 were hanged, drawn, and quartered in the following year; among them the ill-fated James Dawson, whose tragic story Shenstone has perpetuated in a pleasing ballad. Over the spot where criminals for the county of Surrey were once executed, *St. Mark's Church,* with a portico of the Grecian-Doric order, has arisen. Once the Common was a favourite spot for cricket-matches, but these have been principally transferred to *Kennington Oval,* an enclosed plot of ground, of which the sward is as smooth as a bowling-green. The proximity of vitriol-works has spread a withering influence over the Common, and its vegetation was not strengthened by the mass of Chartists who assembled here on the 10th of April, 1848 (the 1*st of April* would have been a more appropriate day), to spout sedition, and to listen to the oratory of white-livered demagogues, who were only too happy to sneak unscathed out of the scrape into which they had been hurried by their own presumption, and a very mistaken impression of their own prowess. Efforts are making to revive the Common.

The populous district of *Vauxhall* was a manor originally known as Fulke's-hall, which subsequently was corrupted into Faukeshall, Foxhall, and Vauxhall. Its first name was derived from Fulke de Breauté, an adherent of King John, who built a hall or mansion-house in the manor of South Lambeth, and from his time it was called indifferently Fulke's-hall, or South Lambeth. Edward II. bestowed Faukeshall upon Roger Damorie, who, forfeiting it by treason, it was given to Hugh le Despencer. This favourite being put to death in 1326, the estate was restored to Damorie's widow, to whom Edward III. gave in exchange for it some lands in Suffolk. It was next granted to Edward the Black Prince, and by him bestowed on the see of Canterbury. Vauxhall is one of the principal manufacturing places in the metropolis. Here are the London gas-works, distilleries, potteries, plate-glass works, &c. The far-famed gardens, which we shall notice hereafter, are the only link to connect Vauxhall with the beautiful neighbourhood whereof in time past they were the centre. Their preservation renders Vauxhall classic ground, and saves its memory from being swallowed up in an undistinguished mass of masonry.

Lambeth is a metropolitan borough, returning two members to parliament; and the population of this vast borough, according to the census of 1841, exceeded 197,000, far exceeding that of nearly almost all of our great provincial manufacturing towns.

CHAPTER VI.

NEWINGTON-BUTTS — STOCKWELL — CLAPHAM — EPSOM — BRIXTON — STREATHAM — WALWORTH — CAMBERWELL— PECKHAM — DULWICH — NORWOOD — ROTHERHITHE — DEPTFORD — GREENWICH — LEWISHAM — BLACKEATH— LEE—ELTHAM — SHOOTER'S HILL—WOOLWICH, ETC.

We return to the Elephant and Castle, whence we must pursue some of the leading routes which diverge from it into Kent and Surrey. Taking a southerly direction from this tavern towards Kennington-common, we pass through the High-street of that small but populous parish, *Newington Butts.* Although Walworth is now included in the parish of Newington, the latter is of considerably more recent origin, its early name being Neweton, or New Town, and its supplemental name from the *butts* placed there for archers to shoot at. Not till 1558 was it called Newington-butts. The most distinguished rector of the parish church of St. Mary was Dr. Samuel Horsley, who was presented to the living in 1759. He subsequently was promoted to the sees of St. David and St. Asaph, and dying at Brighton in 1806, his remains were buried in Newington church. Advancing beyond Newington church, and reaching Kennington-common, we arrive at *Kennington Gate,* whence two roads branch, that of Clapham to the right, that of Brixton to the left. In the Epsom week Kennington presents an animated spectacle, vehicles of every form and size, steeds of every description, and the highest and the humblest of the pleasure-seekers pausing at this barrier till the Cerberus shall have taken the toll from the many hands which are struggling for priority of payment.

The *Clapham Road* is one of the finest and widest avenues out of London. It joins *Stockwell,* a name derived from *stoc,* a wood, and *well.* The manor of Stockwell was anciently called the Manor of South Lambeth. Stockwell Park and Common no longer represent what they express, the verdant sward and deer haunts having been covered with a few shops and many suburban villas. The beautiful and well-wooded little parish of *Clapham* is adjacent to Stockwell. Clapham is supposed to have been named after one of its early possessors. Osgod Clappa was the name of the Danish lord at whose daughter's marriage-feast in Lambeth, Hardicanute died. In Doomsday Book this place is called Clopeham. In the time of Edward the Confessor the manor of Clapham, then valued at £10, was held of the king by Turburnur. Many years afterwards Dr. Atkins, physician to James I., purchased the manor for the sum of £6,000, which money a family tradition reports to have been the produce of presents bestowed on him by the king after his return from Scotland, whither he had been sent to attend Prince Charles, afterwards king, who lay dangerously ill of a fever. Nicholas Brady, the coadjutor of Tate in versifying the Psalms, was instituted to the rectory of Clapham in 1706, which he held till his death in 1726. One of the chief attractions of Clapham is its magnificent Common, a tract containing about 200 acres, and well planted with forest trees. It contains also several streams, one of which is reputed for its mineral qualities. Around the Common there are many fine mansions and villas, the residences of some of the most opulent merchants of the city. Clapham Park, which has been formed within the last quarter of a century, under the auspices of an enterprising member of the Cubitt family, and lies between Clapham and Brixton and Streatham, is also a delightful promenade. In plan it is somewhat similar to the Regent's-park, but it is less crowded with buildings, and being more remote from town presents to the eye more luxurious vegetation. Clapham-common is continued by Battersea-common, beyond which are Tooting and Wimbledon-commons, and other large unenclosed plots of ground, offering, within a few miles of the great metropolis, all the openness and freshness of the rural districts. The main road to Epsom is through Clapham, Balham-hill, Sutton, &c. *Epsom*, now famous for its races, was, some two hundred years ago, equally renowned for its mineral water, a spring of which, discovered on the common in 1618, was the first of the kind ever found in England. The celebrity of these waters was not only confined to England, it extended over France, Germany, and the continent, and in 1640, although Epsom salts were sold at 5*s.* an ounce, the demand exceeded the supply. A ball-room was built, lodging-houses erected, and so great was the resort of English families and foreigners to the village, that it could not contain all the company. Neither Bath nor Tonbridge exceeded it in splendour, or could boast of more distinguished visitors. Sea-bathing and other causes, in the course of time, caused Epsom to lose its reputation as a fashionable watering-place. It now enjoys a more brilliant but more ephemeral renown, as the chief stage of the exploits of our high-mettled racers.

Returning to Kennington-gate, we pursue the road on the left. At the corner of the south extremity is a wide road leading from Kennington to Camberwell-green, called the *Camberwell New-road. Brixton,* into which we now enter, is parallel with the Clapham-road and Stockwell. Its name is derived from Brixi, in olden times a great Saxon proprietor in these parts. From St. Matthew's church, Brixton, two roads branch, the one on the left leading by way of *Effra-road* and *Tulse-hill* to Norwood; that on the right being a continuance of the main road to *Brixton-hill.* Here is situate a *House of Correction,* opened in 1820, and where that instrument of punishment, the tread-wheel, was first introduced. There are ten airing-yards in this prison, all of which radiate from the governor's house in the centre.

By *Streatham-hill,* which is a continuation of Brixton-hill, we reach the quiet and picturesque village of *Streatham,* so called from having been situated near the Great Roman Road from Arundel to London, *strete* signifying in the Saxon tongue a highway, and *ham* a dwelling. In the Doomsday Book it is written Estraham. In the reign of Edward the Confessor the manors in the parish of Streatham were granted to several chiefs of religious houses, and one of these estates was subsequently given by William the Conqueror to his half-brother, Odo, Bishop of Bayeux. Afterwards the monks of Bermondsey became the possessors of a considerable portion of Streatham. By marriage the manor of Streatham passed into the family of the Duke of Bedford. Among the distinguished residents of this village were Mr. Thrale, the eminent brewer, and Mrs. Thrale, who, upon the death of her first husband, became the wife of Gabriel Piozzi. At Mr. Thrale's villa, now known as Streatham-park, the great lexicographer, Dr. Johnson was a frequent resident, and Sir Joshua Reynolds, Edmund Burke, David Garrick, Oliver Goldsmith, Dr. Burney, Sir Robert Chambers, and others, partook of the elegant hospitality of the eminent brewer. Mr. Thrale died in 1781, and Dr. Johnson commemorated the virtues of his friend in a Latin epitaph, inscribed upon a tablet of white marble over the family pew in the parish church. The church, which occupies the centre of the village, is dedicated to St. Leonard, and comprehends a nave and chancel. The north side is composed of flints, and retains some traces of the architecture of the fourteenth century. It contains the tombs of several families of distinction, and among the epitaphs are two in memory of wives, the value of whom, according to the experience of their bereft partners, must have been "far above rubies." Of Rebecca, the wife of William Lynne, the lamenting widower writes :

"Should I ten thousand years enjoy my life
I could not praise enough so good a wife."

On the south wall is a monument to a woman of equal excellence :—"Elizabeth, wife of Major-General Hamilton, who was married near 47 years, and never did one thing to displease her husband!" The celebrated Dr. Benjamin Hoadley was instituted to this rectory in 1710. He quitted Streatham, his most beloved retirement, upon his elevation to the see of Salisbury in 1723. A mineral water, of a cathartic quality, was discovered in this parish in 1660, and its properties are still held in esteem.

Proceeding no further in this direction, we return to the Elephant and Castle, whence we proceed through *Walworth,* on our road to Camberwell, Peckham, Dulwich, Norwood, and their vicinities. Walworth is the only manor in the parish of Newington-butts, and it is in the Doomsday Book called Waleorde. King Edmund bestowed this manor on his jester, Nithardus, who, in the reign of the Confessor, being about to make a pilgrimage to Rome, obtained permission from that monarch to grant it to the see of Canterbury. The whole of Walworth-road, between the Elephant and Castle and Camberwell-gate, has of late years been converted into one vast market, being lined on either side with shops, only a few private houses intervening, but in the streets, especially on the west side, are many genteel residences, which are not destined to swell the amount of shops. On the east side is *St. Peter's Church,* the foundation-stone of which was laid by the Archbishop of Canterbury in 1823, and consecrated by the same prelate in 1825. This was the first church built by Sir John Soane.

Leaving Walworth, we enter the extensive parish of *Camberwell,* called in the Doomsday Book, Cabrewelle. The district of Camberwell formerly comprehended one manor only, which was held of the Confessor by Norman, and of William I. by Haimo, the Sheriff. It was valued at £12. Soon after the conquest it was divided, and eventually became several distinct manors. Henry I. gave Camberwell and Peckham to his natural son Robert, Earl of Gloucester, in whose family it remained for several generations. By marriage the Gloucester estate came into the possession of Edward Duke of Buckingham, who was decapitated in 1521, and it has since borne the name of Camberwell Buckinghams. That Camberwell has been the residence of many aristocratic families is evident, not only from its ecclesiastical records and tombs, but some of the fine old manorial dwellings which remain. Among its distinguished residents were the Muschamps, who came over to England with William the Conqueror; the Scotts, of whom one was a Baron of the Exchequer; the Skynners, the Bowyers, the Drapers, the Brelynhursts, and the Gardiners. Of the modern associations of Camberwell, perhaps the most familiar one is the *fair* held upon the *Green*, and which, next to Greenwich, is the chief metropolitan pleasure fair. Numerous efforts have been made to suppress this fair, but from some unexplained cause its vitality seems unaffected. Peckham fair was suppressed in 1827, after having, according to popular tradition, existed since the reign of King John, who, it is said, granted an annual fair of three years' continuance, to mark the gratification which he felt at having killed a stag while hunting in Peckham. Peckham Fair at one time seems to have been a more riotous saturnalia than the one held at Camberwell, and gave rise to the proverb, "All holiday at Peckham." On Camberwell-road there is a large red brick mansion, with stone quoins and pediments, once the family residence of the Bowyers. Evelyn, in his *Diary*, describes a visit to Sir Edmund Bowyer, at his "melancholie seat at Camerwell." Sombre as the house appeared to Evelyn, it has a still more dreary appearance now, and during the revels of the adjacent fair the contrast between noisy merriment and declining grandeur is most striking. *Camberwell-grove*, although partially denuded of the woody attributes of a grove, still has in a great degree resisted the tasteless hand of innovation. On either side it is lined with elegant mansions and villas, with planted forecourts, but the apostrophe applied to it by Maurice, in his poem of *The Grove Hill*, has ceased to be appropriate:—

"Ye towering elms on whose majestic brows
A hundred rolling years have shed their snows,
Admit me to your dark sequestered reign,
To roam with Contemplation's studious train!"

Camberwell-grove was, some half century back, writes Mr. Douglas Allport, "a favourite suburban resort; its association with the romantic murderer, George Barnwell, imparting to it a peculiar interest in the eyes of 'London 'prentices.' This tradition appears to have been invented for the purpose of preserving the unity of place in the tragedy, and, perhaps, of giving it additional interest in the eyes of the London public. The prologue distinctly recognises the original *ballad* of George Barnwell as the basis of the play, and this old ballad says, quite as unequivocally, that the victim was a *Ludlow* grazier, and that George set off for that place, when instigated by the artifices of his paramour, to rob and murder him :—

> ———" 'To Ludlow straight
> He did provide to go.' "

Grove-hill was the seat of the celebrated Dr. Lettsom.

From Camberwell-green two parallel roads extend; that on the right extending to Denmark-hill, Champion-hill, Herne-hill, Dulwich, and Norwood; and the left-hand one by Camberwell church to Peckham, New-cross, and Old Kent-road. To the former we give precedence. Denmark-hill is a gentle eminence, on which several fine mansions, some modern and a few ancient, are erected. The Denmark-hill Grammar-school, an old red edifice similar in character to Bowyer House, was formerly the residence of Mr. Perkins, successor to Mr. Thrale, and one of the original partners in the firm of Barclay and Perkins. Similar in character to Denmark-hill are *Herne-hill* and *Champion-hill,* which are studded with gentlemen's seats, and from the elevations of which fine views are gained of the picturesque landscapes of Kent and Surrey. The late Mr. Thomas Cromwell, a descendant from the Protector, supposed Herne-hill to have been thus named from having been the resort and breeding-place of the herons or *herns* frequenting the waters in this neighbourhood. Certain it is that in early times game abounded in Camberwell and Lambeth; the quail, the rail, the pheasant, the woodcock, the mallard, and the heron, being specifically named in old charters. Although these hills are popularly considered to belong to Camberwell, and as such are named in most directories, the houses on the west side are in the parish of Lambeth, which extends in this direction to Norwood, passing by *Tulse-hill,* a beautiful eminence between Brixton and Norwood. In this direction we must pause awhile, and, before visiting Dulwich and Norwood, acquaint ourselves with that portion of Camberwell and Peckham at which we have not yet glanced. Returning to Camberwell-green, and pursuing the left-hand road that diverges from it, and which is called the Peckham-road, we enter *Church-street,* so named from the magnificent parish church of *St. Giles.* Some interesting associations are attached to the old church, which was destroyed by fire on the night of Sunday, the 7th of February, 1841. According to the Doomsday Book, there was a church at Camberwell previous to the year 1085, supposed to have been erected by the Saxon owners of the soil. In 1152 a new church was built at Camberwell, which, two years afterwards, was given by William De Melhent, Earl of Gloucester, to the Abbey of Bermondsey. In Bishop Edendon's register at Winchester is a commission, dated 1346, for reconciling this church, which had been polluted by bloodshed. "As the country was in a state of great disorganization," says Mr. Allport, "the king being in France, and the Scotch very troublesome at home, it is probable that a murder had been committed on some individual who had fled there for sanctuary." Mr. Lysons supposes the late church to have been built early in the reign of Henry VIII., giving, as a reason for this belief, the architecture of the windows, and of the arches which divided the nave from the aisles; but Mr. Allport thinks that the structure was raised some half century earlier. This church, on the west side of the Peckham-road, was built of flint and rough stones, and consisted of a nave, chancel, and two aisles; at the west end was a small embattled tower composed of the same materials. The chief building was dedicated to St. Giles, the south aisle was sacred to the Virgin Mary, and the north aisle to St. Nicholas.

In the nave and chancel were monuments to several of the noble families to whom we have referred, and the windows were embellished with the armorial bearings of the Muschamps and others of the early residents in Camberwell. These memorials of its olden magnificence were nearly all destroyed by the fire which levelled the venerable edifice with the dust. The brasses were preserved, but the mural monuments, with the exception of the figure of Lady Hunt, were prostrated from their niches and utterly consumed, or rendered so brittle as to fall to powder when touched. The splendid chancel-window (three cherubs' heads in the upper lights excepted), and all the stained glass in the church was melted, and ran together into nearly colourless masses. The new church of St. Giles was commenced in 1841, after the designs of Scott and Moffatt, and was finished and consecrated in 1844. In shape it is cruciform, and it is built in the decorated style. Its tapering spire is a work of great architectural merit, and the church itself is one of the most elegant Gothic structures erected in this country since the sixteenth century.

We enter *Peckham,* which Lysons, writing in 1792, calls "a hamlet in the parish of Camberwell," but the title of *hamlet* is no longer applicable to Peckham, which, with New Peckham, Peckham-rye, and its dependencies, may at least claim the rank of a suburban town. In the Doomsday Book it is called *Pecheha,* and it appears to have been a manor formerly belonging to Battersea. It was granted by William the Conqueror to his half-brother, Odo, Bishop of Bayeux, and was held under this prelate by the Bishop of Sisieux. The manor of Peckham, after belonging to several noble families (it was held by the Muschamps in the time of Henry VIII.) was purchased by Sir Thomas Bond in 1672, who thereupon built the manor-house. This gentleman was introduced to royalty by Lord St. Albans, made comptroller of the household to the widow of Charles I., and was created a baronet in 1668. Bond-street, one of the centres of fashion, is named after him. Sir Thomas was one of the most confidential friends of James II., and when that monarch was expatriated he accompanied his royal master to France. Sir Thomas Bond's fidelity to the Stuart family endangered his life, for an infuriated mob attacked his mansion at Peckham, and he found great difficulty in escaping from the vengeance of the unreasoning rioters. The mansion-house was taken down in 1797, and every vestige of it removed. *Peckham-rye* is justly esteemed for the salubrity of its atmosphere, and is a favourite resort for invalids. It is thus called from a stream of water running through the centre of a common, or which, from its position in regard to the houses on either side, might be called a village-green. In ancient maps the name is written *rey*. In the Saxon tongue *rhe*, or *rhee*, signifies a water-course or river, and hence the derivation of the name of Peckham-rye is obvious. Roman remains have been dug up in this vicinity, where some antiquaries suppose the Romans had a camp, and Peckham-rye common is imagined to have been the scene of a conflict between the Romans and the Britons described by Tacitus. There is not in the immediate neighbourhood of London a more open and agreeable country than Peckham-rye, *Nunhead*, *Forest-hill*, and the adjacent localities.

The retired village of *Dulwich* preserves all the features of a country hamlet, remote from the stir and bustle of towns. It was formerly spelt Dilwysshe, and in 1127 was granted by Henry I. to the abbey of Bermondsey. When the religious houses were suppressed it was given to Thomas Calton, and was by Sir Francis Calton alienated to Edward Alleyne, the celebrated actor, whose munificence has bestowed on Dulwich a celebrity quite extrinsic of the natural attractions of its picturesque vicinity. Alleyne was the sole proprietor of the Fortune playhouse in Whitecross-street, and part proprietor of a Bear-garden on the Bankside, subsequently to which he obtained the place of master of the king's bears. Having by his dramatic speculations acquired a considerable fortune, he resolved to appropriate it to a charitable foundation, and having obtained the king's consent, he fixed upon Dulwich as the spot on which to found his college. The college was built in 1614, after the plan of Inigo Jones, and was named by its founder the *College of God's Gift*, to consist of a master, a warden, four fellows, six poor brethren, six poor sisters, all of whom were enjoined celibacy, and twelve poor scholars. After quitting the stage Alleyne retired to Dulwich, where he superintended the affairs of his college till his death in 1626. He was buried in the college chapel by the side of his second wife, who is said to have been a daughter of the famous Dr. Donne. He provided by his will that the mastership and wardenship of the college should only be held by persons of his own name, or the names of Alleyn or Allen. The first master and warden of the college were Thomas and Matthias Alleyne, kinsmen of the founder. Among its subsequent benefactors was the Viscountess Falkland, who bequeathed to the college £300, the interest of which is distributed amongst the poor brothers and sisters at Christmas. The college register records the burial of Old Bridget, Queen of the Gypsies, in 1768, and of Mathews, the Dulwich hermit, who was murdered in Dulwich woods in 1803. In connection with the college is the *Bourgeois Gallery of Paintings.* Sir Peter Francis Bourgeois, by his will, dated December, 1810, left his splendid collection of pictures, frames, and prints, with his furniture and effects, to Dulwich College, to be publicly exhibited according to the direction of the master and fellows. He likewise bequeathed £12,000 to pay the expenses incidental to his munificent bequest. Of this sum a portion was laid out in building the new gallery in the rear of the college, where the pictures are now exhibited. The gallery contains more than 350 paintings, including the works of Murillo, Cuyp, Teniers, Hobbema, Rembrandt, Rubens, Wouvermans, Both, Velasquez, Watteau, Titian, Guido, Claude, Salvator Rosa, the Poussins, Gainsborough, Opie, Sir Thomas Lawrence, and others. Admission is procured to this gallery by tickets, which may be obtained from printsellers. It is closed on Fridays.

Norwood, originally called North Wood, from its lying north of Croydon, is the most picturesque district in the parish of Lambeth. It is about seven miles from the city, and is situate in a delightful vale, and surrounded by hills about 390 feet above the level of the sea at low water. Eighty years since Norwood was one vast forest of oaks and other trees, and the favourite haunt of the gipsy tribe. The surpassing beauty of its scenery has tended to attract residents, and during the present century building has rapidly progressed here, terraces, villas, and hotels, having been erected; but, as in other localities, speculation has not been permitted to injure the landscape. Norwood still abounds in large uncultivated tracts of forest land, and Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton is of opinion that some portion of it still presents the chase-like appearance which it did in the days of the Conqueror. The *Norwood Cemetery*, at Lower Norwood, is one of the most admired of the suburban places of interment, being formed on a gentle slope, well planted, and containing a church and other buildings of architectural merit. Some years back a saline spring of medicinal virtue was discovered at Beulah, Upper Norwood, the estate of J. D. Smith, Esq., and was called the *Beulah Spa*. The grounds of the Beulah Spa were tastefully laid out, and numerous attractions added, which have rendered it a favourite summer resort with the public. The environs of Norwood present all the beauties which the most enthusiastic admirers of the country could desire, without any of the inconveniencies which often attend a remote residence from cities.

We again start from the Elephant and Castle, and enter the *New Kent-road*, which is continued by the *Old Kent-road*, whence there is a continuous line of road to Dover. When London-bridge was the only metropolitan causeway over the river Thames, the Old Kent-road was a thoroughfare of no mean importance; as the main coach-road to the ports of Kent, it retained much of its original traffic, till the introduction of railways taking the coaches off the road, except for short stages, rendered it comparatively abandoned, and caused some of the best frequented inns to be shut up. Notwithstanding the Greenwich railway, omnibuses to Greenwich are constantly running on the Kent-road, the secret of their success being that they pass by intermediate places to which the railway affords no transit. On the north side of the Kent-road, a road by the side of the Surrey canal leads to the maritime-looking parish of *Rotherhithe*, on the right bank of the Thames, and between which and Wapping the Thames Tunnel forms a sub-aqueous communication. Although, in common with Wapping, Rotherhithe is the residence of ship-owners, sea-faring people, and tradesmen dependent on navigation; although, like Wapping, Rotherhithe exhibits a few narrow streets, or rather alleys, in which all imaginable ship-stores are exposed for sale, still it is incomparably superior to its Middlesex colleague as a place of residence, containing extensive meadows, farms, gardens, and taverns with pleasure-grounds attached. The name of Rotherhithe is derived from the Saxon words *rother*, a sailor, and *hyth*, a haven or wharf. It is familiarly called *Redriff*, a name which seems to have prevailed as early as the thirteenth century. It is about two miles below London-bridge, and lies between Bermondsey and Deptford. The land which is not occupied by houses is chiefly pasture, and was formerly a marsh. The trench said to be cut by Canute, to besiege the city of London by water, began in this parish, and the channel through which the river was turned in 1178, for the purpose of rebuilding London-bridge, is supposed to have taken the same course. As Rotherhithe is not mentioned in the Doomsday Book, it is believed to have been in the time of William I. only a hamlet to Bermondsey. In the churchyard attached to the church of *St. Mary* there is a monument erected by the East India Company in memory of Prince Lee Boo, a native of the Pelew Islands, and son to Abba Thulle, Rupack or King of the island Goo-roo-raa, who died on the 27th of December, 1784, of small-pox, at Captain Wilson's house in Paradise-row. The tomb was erected as a memorial of the humane treatment afforded by his father to the crew of the Antelope East Indiaman, wrecked off the island in August, 1783. Rotherhithe has long been celebrated for its docks. The principal ones are the Commercial Docks, formerly the Greenland Dock, the Surrey Canal Dock, and the East Country Docks. Taken altogether, Rotherhithe is a very agreeable spot, combining in itself the atmosphere of a ship-building neighbourhood, and of a suburban hamlet of the last century. In this vicinage, until very recently, the strides of brick and mortar seem to have progressed slowly. Wayside cottages, market-gardens, luxuriant meadows, and blooming orchards, transported the imagination many miles beyond London-bridge, while the proximity of the shipping reminded one of those picturesque semi-nautical semi-agricultural towns which gem the north and west of England. The Greenwich railway has denuded Rotherhithe of much of its rural character. Where pear and apple blossoms once pleased the eye and perfumed the air, an interminable vista of arches wearies the vision with its monotony. Before the advent of the rail Rotherhithe was the Arcadia of tea-gardens. Though diminished in number and shorn of their fair proportions, some of these haunts of pleasaunce remain for the refection and recreation of the industrious class of operatives who compose the population of this dense neighbourhood. One, called the *St. Helena Gardens,* still stands in all its integrity. Towards the close of the last century this place was in high repute; it almost held rank with Vauxhall and Ranelagh, and was not unfrequently distinguished by the presence of royalty and aristocratic beauty. Here "the first gentleman in Europe," the Prince of Wales, afterwards George IV., delighted occasionally to ramble with that galaxy of wit and loveliness, the glorious system of which he was ambitious to be considered the central sun. A splendid ball-room was placed in the centre of these gardens, where all the skill of the nurseryman and florist were tasked to produce an agreeable combination of alley, lawn, walk, grove, and meadow; not omitting those mazy windings which our forefathers called lovers' walks, but which our own unsentimental, matter-of-fact generation, describe as serpentine. As a relic of the last century, these gardens will amply repay a visit.

Deptford—which with Greenwich and Woolwich, was under the Reform Bill, erected into a parliamentary borough, returning two members to the House of Commons—is a town in Kent, three miles from London bridge, lying between Rotherhithe and Greenwich, a part of it being situate on the high Kent-road. It was formerly called *Depeford,* signifying the deep ford over the river Ravensbourne, which at this place mingles its waters with those of the Thames. In the reign of William I., Deptford was the principal seat of Gilbert de Maminot, a Norman baron. Upon the noble family of Saye coming into possession of the place, it was styled the manor of West Greenwich. John Evelyn, the philosophical writer, whom we have quoted in the earlier part of this work, some centuries later became the owner of Saye's Court, the mansion-house attached to the estate. His garden is said to have been the wonder and admiration of the most learned men of his time. When Peter the Great visited England in 1698, he resided at Saye's Court, while he was studying naval architecture in the adjoining dockyard. This noble mansion was pulled down in 1728; and the parish workhouse of St. Nicholas, built upon its site; while *Evelyn-street,* a long, dirty, and gloomy outlet, now occupies the ground once rendered beautiful to the senses by the incomparable garden of the author of *Sylva.* Deptford contains two hospitals, belonging to the Trinity House; the old one was built in the reign of Henry VIII., and re-erected in 1788, when the number of apartments was increased. The other hospital is in Church-street, has numerous apartments, and forms a spacious quadrangle. A plain building on the east side serves as chapel and hall, to which the brethren of the Trinity House resort annually, on Trinity Monday, in procession, and afterwards go to

St. Nicholas church. The Royal Dockyard, in Deptford, covering more than thirty acres of ground, was founded by Henry VIII., who likewise built a depôt for naval stores, since converted into a Victualling-office. A naval storehouse has been recently added by the Messrs. Rennie. In the dock-yard several large men-of-war employed in the late contest with Bonaparte, were built, as were some of those ships of discovery in which Captain Cook circumnavigated the globe. Deptford has always been famous as a ship-building town, and it is singular, that a village of the same name on the Wear, near Sunderland, has long been renowned in the north of England for the very fine ships which are built and fitted out there for the perils and enterprise of the ocean. The Earl of Nottingham, Lord High Admiral of England, in the reign of Elizabeth, and the principal agent in the overthrow of the Spanish Armada, resided in Deptford, where a public-house, called the Gun tavern, was pointed out as the ancient mansion of the naval hero. Among its distinguished inhabitants also were Sir Thomas Smith, farmer of the Customs to Queen Elizabeth, and ambassador from James I. to Russia; and Cowley, the poet.

The next point at which we arrive is *Greenwich*, the beautiful situation of which, on the Thames, has rendered it from time immemorial the holiday resort, the favourite jaunting-place of the Londoners. The railways which seem to have injured many towns within a short distance of the metropolis, have apparently had no such prejudicial effect on Greenwich; on the contrary, the facility afforded by the rail of reaching this pleasant locality within a quarter-of-an-hour after having emerged from the smoke of London, has produced a vast augmentation of visitors. Ample evidence is given of the popularity of the place during the fairs held here at Easter and Whitsuntide, when not only are railway trains that run every five minutes, crowded with the votaries of pleasure, but multitudes stream in the same direction on foot, in omnibuses running from the city, by the way of the Kent-road, and in steam-boats from Hungerford-market and London-bridge. Not only in fair-time, but during the spring, summer, and autumn months, Greenwich presents temporarily, a large extra population of visitors, which is not to be wondered at, when we remember the many objects of attraction which are centred in this town; among them the hospital for the gallant naval veterans who have fought England's battles on the ocean, and which has been thought the most magnificent edifice ever consecrated to the cause of charity; the park, with its venerable forest trees, its fine avenues, and its gentle eminences; the Royal Observatory in the park, whence the meridian of longitude is taken; and (to descend to the material) the snug river-side hotels, where all the world go to eat whitebait.

Greenwich has ever been a place of note, and was the favourite residence of some of our early sovereigns. In very remote times it was called Grenovicum by the Romans, and afterwards was named by the Saxons, Grenawic, signifying the green village. During the reign of King Ethelred, in 1011, Greenwich was the head-quarters of the Danish troops, and Greenwich-reach the harbour of their ships. The invaders ravaged Kent, and having despoiled the city of Canterbury, seized on Ealpheg, the archbishop, whom they brought to their camp at Greenwich, where they kept him a prisoner for seven months. They murdered the unfortunate prelate, writes Lambard, "because he would not condescend to redeem his life with three thousand pounds, which the people of the city and diocese were contented to have given for his ransom." The citizens of London purchased the body at a great price. The corpse was first buried in St. Paul's Cathedral, but eleven years afterwards King Canute caused the body to be taken up and conveyed to Canterbury, where it was buried with solemnity. Alphage was afterwards canonized, and upon the spot where he was assassinated a church was consecrated. The present church of St. Alphage, in the centre of the town, indicates the exact place where the archbishop suffered martyrdom. In old records Greenwich is styled the Manor of East Greenwich, to distinguish it from West Greenwich, or Deptford. So early as the reign of Edward I. it is supposed there was a royal palace at Greenwich. The will of Henry IV., made in 1408, is dated from the palace. In 1433 Henry VI. bestowed the manor of Greenwich upon his uncle, Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, who also obtained a grant from the crown of 200 acres, to enclose as a park. Four years afterwards an additional grant of 200 acres was made to him, with licence "to make a tower and ditch within the same, and a certain tower within his park to build and edify." Duke Humphrey raised a palace on the site now covered by the west wing of the hospital, and called it Placentia, or the Manor of Pleasaunce. He also built a tower on Flamstead-hill, now crowned by the Royal Observatory. Upon the assassination of the duke, the manor became, and has ever since remained, crown property. Edward IV. enlarged and finished the palace, which he granted to his queen, Elizabeth Woodville, from whom it was taken by Henry VII. In the reign of this king it was beautified with a brick front towards the river. That luxurious tyrant, Henry VIII., was born here, and exceeded his predecessors in the magnificence of the decorations which he added to the royal residence, making it, according to Lambard, "A pleasant, perfect, and princely palace." Here he was married to Catherine of Arragon, and afterwards to Ann of Cleves; and in this palace his daughters, queens Mary and Elizabeth, were born; and his son, the amiable Edward VI., closed his short reign at Greenwich. James I. resided much at Greenwich, and his queen, Anne, of Denmark, laid the foundation of the "House of Delight," which now forms the centre building of the Naval Asylum. Henrietta Maria, consort of Charles I., completed the House of Delight, which was erected under the superintendence of Charles I. Hasted says she furnished it so magnificently, that it far surpassed all other houses of the kind in England.* Oliver Cromwell never resided in

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* Shoberl.

Greenwich, and the palace being in a dilapidated condition on the accession of Charles II., it was taken down, and a magnificent edifice commenced, the first wing of which the king only lived to see completed. This wing, now the west one of the hospital, was raised at a cost of £36,000, the architect engaged being Webb, the son-in-law of Inigo Jones, from whose plans the fabric was erected. Neither Charles II. nor James II. resided much in the new palace, which became the nucleus of that noble institution, *Greenwich Hospital.*

In 1694, at the suggestion of Queen Mary, consort of of William III., it was determined that an asylum should be founded for seamen of the royal navy, disabled by age, or maimed in the service of their country, and for the support of the widows and education of the children of those who should be slain. It was decided that 300 seamen should be the recipients of this charity, a number which has since been augmented to 3,000, besides 32,000 out-pensioners. The proposal of Sir Christopher Wren, to convert the abandoned palace of Charles II. to this use, was adopted, and that building, with some others and certain parcels of land adjoining, were granted to trustees nominated to carry the design into execution. Private subscriptions, to the amount of £60,000, were contributed in aid of the undertaking, and to the incomplete palace of Charles II. two magnificent quadrangles were added by Sir Christopher Wren, and in the reign of Queen Anne a similar building to that of the palace of Charles II. was erected. These four distinct piles of building are distinguished by the names of King Charles's, Queen Anne's, King William's, and Queen Mary's. The two first are nearest to the river, and in front of them, on the river-side, is a terrace 865 feet in length. Between them and King William's and Queen Mary's buildings is the grand square, 273 feet in width. In the centre of it is a fine statue of George II. by Rysbrach, carved out of a single block of white marble which weighs 11 tons, and was taken from the French by Admiral Sir George Rooke. On the four sides of the pedestal are Latin inscriptions in honour of the prince and of the hospital. In King William's building is the *Painted Hall,* where the remains of the gallant Nelson lay in state previous to their sepulture in St. Paul's Cathedral. This hall was built by Sir Christopher Wren, and was first used as a dining-hall for the pensioners. It is divided into three parts, the Vestibule, the Saloon or Grand Hall, and the Upper Hall. In the first-named are statues of Nelson, Duncan, Howe, and St. Vincent, over which are suspended the bannered trophies of many a naval victory. Upon the payment of threepence we ascend a flight of steps into the Grand Hall, which is 106 feet long, 56 feet wide, and 50 feet high. Its walls are adorned with portraits of famous British admirals, and paintings of memorable ocean-battles. The ceiling is decorated with allegorical paintings representing King William and Queen Mary surrounded by the cardinal virtues, and national emblems, &c. The painter's art has also been employed to beautify the ceiling and sides of the Upper Hall. In the centre of the ceiling is represented Queen Anne and Prince George of Denmark, with emblematic figures. The embellishments of the Painted Hall were commenced in 1708, and finished in 1727 by Sir James Thornhill, whose labours were requited with £6,685. In 1823 the hall was first converted into a picture-gallery, George IV. giving 38 of the principal paintings in the collection. William IV. presented five valuable paintings, and the remaining pictures are the gifts of private individuals. In Queen Mary's building is the *Hospital Chapel,* perhaps the most sumptuous and perfect place of worship erected in England since the Reformation. The interior part and roof having been destroyed by fire in 1779, the chapel was restored in the most beautiful style of Grecian architecture, after the designs of Mr. James Stuart, author of *The Antiquities of Athens,* who was surveyor of the hospital. At the entrance of the chapel is an octangular vestibule wherein are four niches containing statues of Faith, Hope, Charity, and Meekness, in artificial stone from designs by West.

From the vestibule a flight of fourteen steps conducts into the chapel, which is 111 feet long and 52 broad. Space will not allow us to dwell on the elaborated stone and marble work, and the sculpture and painting with which this place of devotion is affluent; suffice it to state that it is one of the most beautiful appendages of the hospital, and will yield gratification to every lover of high art.

The first stone of Greenwich Hospital was laid on the 3rd of June, 1696, and this port of refuge for veteran sailors was opened in January, 1705. Its proportions are as follow:—The northern buildings, each 175 feet by 290 feet, the space between them 290 feet square, the southern buildings each 205 feet by 277 feet, the attached colonnades to which project 19 feet. The avenue between is 115 feet wide, and the inner court of each of Wren's buildings 188 feet by 150 feet. The average altitude of the buildings is 65 feet, and of the domes 130 feet. The funds of the institution may be thus classified:—An annual grant of £20,000 by parliament; fines levied against smuggling, £19,500; effects of Captain Kidd, the pirate, £6,472; in 1708 the forfeited and unclaimed share of prize and bounty-money; in 1710 £6,000 per annum out of the coal and culm-tax; in 1735 the forfeited estate of the Earl of Derwentwater (who was executed for treason), amounting to £6,000 per annum.* Several private individuals have also liberally added to the funds. Robert Osbolston bequeathed property to the amount of £20,000 to this national charity, the yearly revenue of which is about £140,000.

South of the hospital is the *Greenwich Naval Asylum*, where 1,000 children of both sexes, the orphans of seamen, are supported and educated. This asylum was originally commenced at Paddington, and removed to Greenwich in 1807.

When the unfinished palace of Charles II. was appropriated to the use of superannuated sailors, *Greenwich Park* was reserved to the Crown. It was circumvallated with brick by James I., and was laid out by Le Notre in the reign of Charles II. It is shaded chiefly with elms and Spanish chestnut trees, many of which were planted by the learned Evelyn. The park contains 200 acres, picturesquely varied by hill and dale. The scenery is singularly beautiful. The views from One Tree-hill and the Observatory are magnificent. From these elevations a bird's-eye view is gained of the metropolis, its eastern suburbs, and the serpentine windings of the river with its numerous shipping. On Flamstead-hill, in the park, stands the *Royal Observatory*, erected on the site of the tower of Duke Humphrey. In this tower the Earl of Leicester, having excited the indignation of the Maiden Queen by marrying the Countess of Essex, was detained prisoner for some time. It was granted by James to the Earl of Northampton, who, having enlarged and improved it, made it his chief abode. Toward the close of the reign of Charles I. it was called Greenwich Castle, and from its situation was valued by the Parliament as an important fortress. In the reign of Charles II., it having been determined to establish an observatory, Sir Christopher Wren recommended that the building should occupy the ground covered by Greenwich Castle. His suggestion was adopted, and the edifice, commenced in August, 1675, was completed in the following August. The king gave £500 towards the building, the bricks were principally supplied from the ruins of Tilbury Fort, and other materials were furnished from an old gate-house in the tower. Mr. Flamstead, who, though under thirty years of age, had distinguished himself by his scientific acquirements, was the first astronomer-royal, a post which he held for forty-three years. His successors were Dr. Hally, Dr. Bradley, Nathaniel Bliss, Nevil Maskelyne, John Pond, and Professor Airy, who has been astronomer-royal since 1835. The Observatory is 214 feet above the level of the sea.

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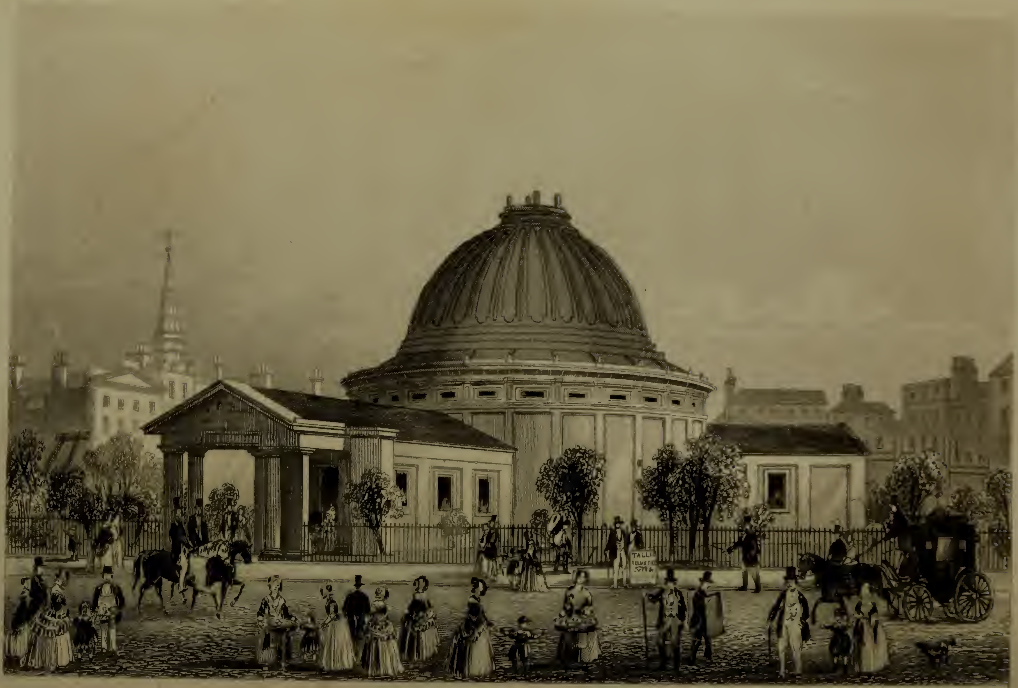
* *A Summer's Day at Greenwich.*

Greenwich-park, writes Mr. Shoberl, is supposed to have been the scene of many murderous conflicts, especially between the Danes and the Saxons. Several tumuli, or burying-places, have at various times been discovered on the south-west side. Some of these were opened in 1784, and besides human bones, spear-heads, knives, &c., were discovered, these having, according to the custom of the warlike age, been deposited in the graves of the deceased. The Ranger's lodge, in the south-west side of the park, looking towards Blackheath, belonged, in 1753, to Philip Earl of Chesterfield, who enlarged it and made it his residence. The Princess Sophia Matilda of Gloucester was appointed Ranger of the Park in 1816, and occupied it till her death a few years since.

The church of *St. Alphage* occupies the angle formed by the union of London, Church, and Stockwell-streets. It was built in 1718 upon the site of the ancient church, after the plan of Mr. John James. The architecture is Roman, and it is faced externally with Portland stone. Among the monumental brasses in the old church of St. Alphage was one in memory of Thomas Tallis, who was esteemed the father of the collegiate style of music, and was musician in the chapel-royal in the reigns of Henry VIII. and his three immediate successors. He died in 1581. At the east end of the town there is a college, or almshouses, called the *Duke of Norfolk's College*, which was founded in 1613 by Henry Earl of Northampton, brother of Thomas, fourth Duke of Norfolk, and son of that illustrious warrior and poet, Henry, Earl of Surrey. These almshouses were established for the maintenance of twenty decayed old housekeepers, twelve out of Greenwich and eight from Shottisham, in Norfolk. They are under the control of the Mercer's Company, and the pensioners, besides meat, drink, and lodging, are allowed one-and-six-pence a-week, with a gown once a-year, linen once in two years, and hats once in four years.

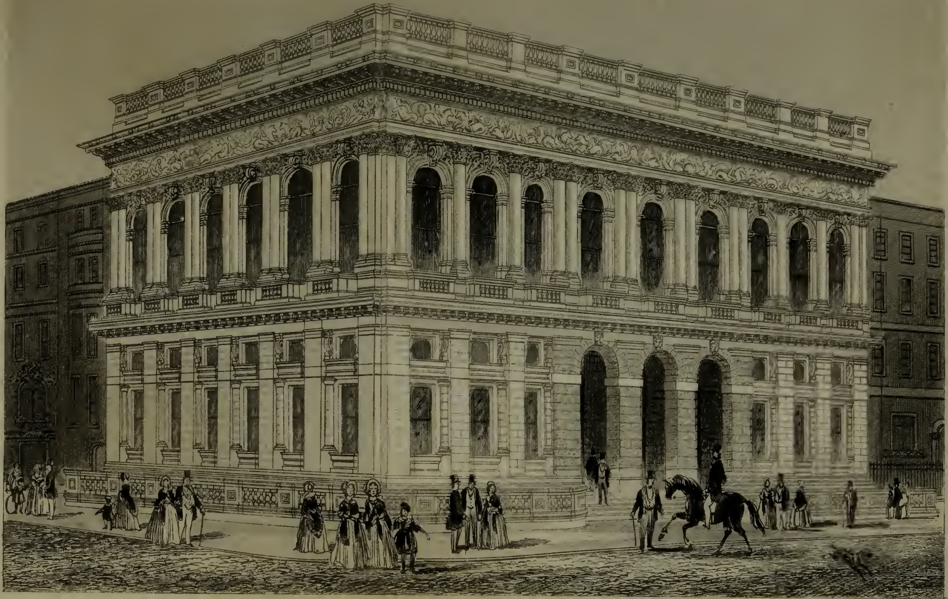
As far back as 1557, two burgesses were returned to parliament for this town by the inhabitants, but it does not appear that they afterwards exercised that privilege. Nearly three hundred years elapsed before Greenwich was again recognised as a parliamentary borough.

Passing through the eastern entrance-gate of Greenwich-park, we find ourselves upon that noble plain *Blackheath,* a place celebrated in the history of this country. Here the Danes held their head-quarters, and some few years back vestiges of entrenchments were visible on certain parts of this heath. Wat Tyler, the blacksmith, and his worthy compeer, Jack Straw, encamped here with one hundred thousand men, on their way to London to gratify their natural taste for plunder and devastation. It was also known as a place of ceremonial meetings and triumphal processions. In November, 1415, King Henry V., on returning to his realms after the battle of Agincourt, was received here with great rejoicings by the Lord Mayor and aldermen of London. In 1431 the same civic dignitaries assembled to meet Henry VI. on his return from being crowned in the church of Nôtre Dame at Paris. That ambitious robber, Jack Cade, with twenty thousand of his banditti, twice encamped on Blackheath in 1449 and 1450. Upon the death of the rebel chief, his adherents made a virtue of submission, and humbly craved pardon of the king on the heath. In 1497 Henry VII. overcame six thousand Cornish rebels, commanded by Lord Audley, on Blackheath. One-third of the insurgents were slain, and the rest compelled to surrender. The scene of these historic incidents is still a wide and open plain, but where contending hosts once met, and royal pageants were celebrated, nothing is now seen save attenuated ponies and donkeys ready caparisoned for the benefit of the equestrian amateur, and excited to an unwonted speed by the bludgeons of the ruffian owners, whom the Humane 'Society never call to account. At fair-time the heath presents a more animated spectacle. Gipsies, archery, and other objects enliven the place. On the edges of the heath and in the village are many elegant mansions occupied by individuals of rank and affluence. At Westcomb House resided Lavinia Fenton, the famous representative of *Polly Peachum* in the *Beggar's Opera,* who became the wife of the Duke of Bolton. On the



LEICESTER SQUARE,

WITH THE BUILDING IN WHICH MR. WYLD'S MODEL OF THE EARTH IS EXHIBITED.



ARMY AND NAVY CLUB HOUSE.

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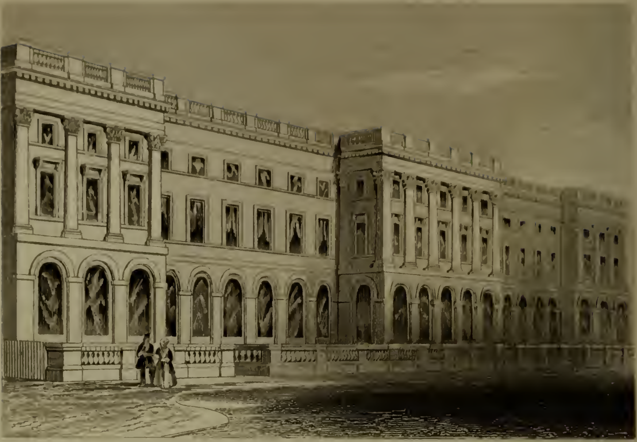
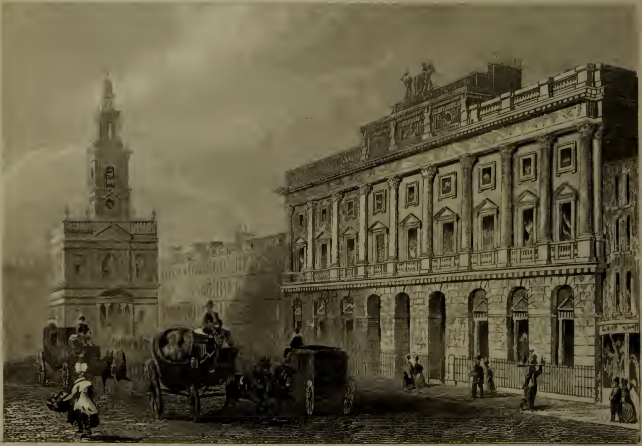
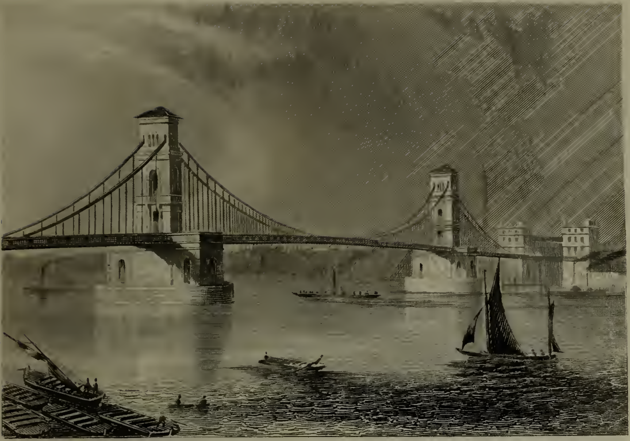


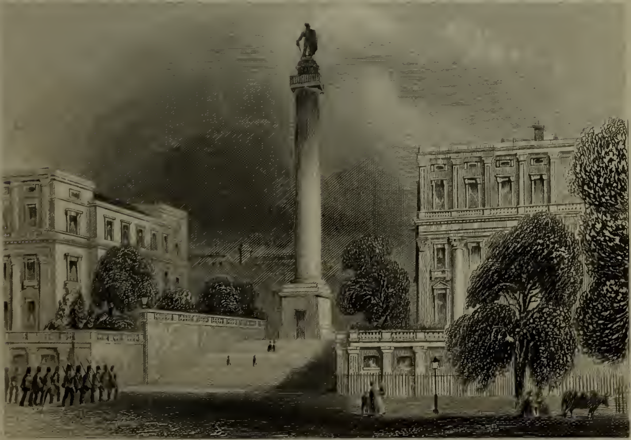
KING'S COLLEGE, STRAND



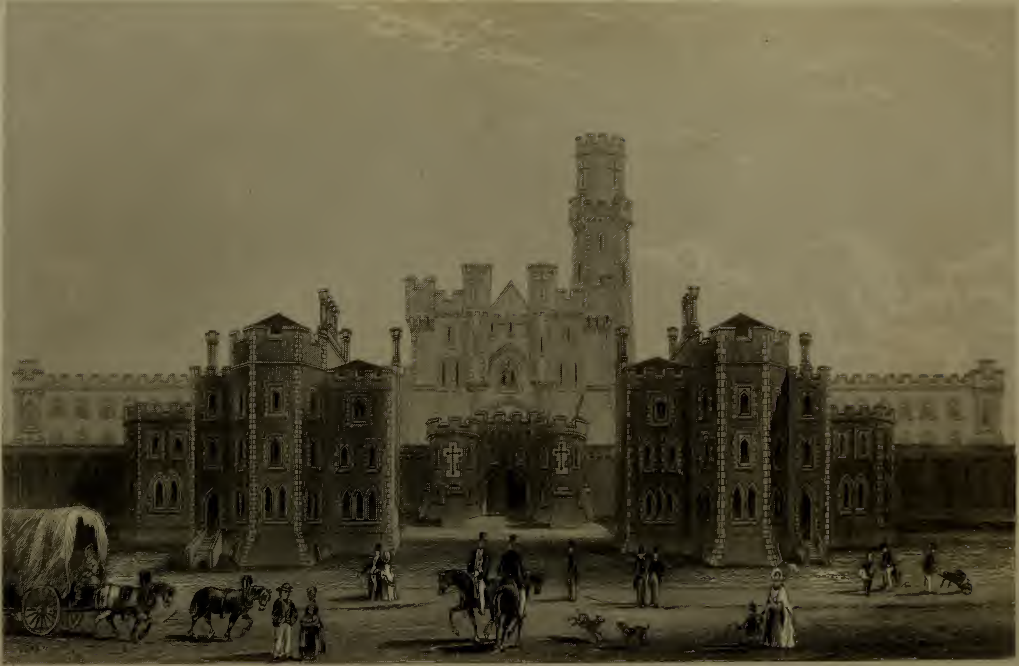
SOMERSET HOUSE, STRAND



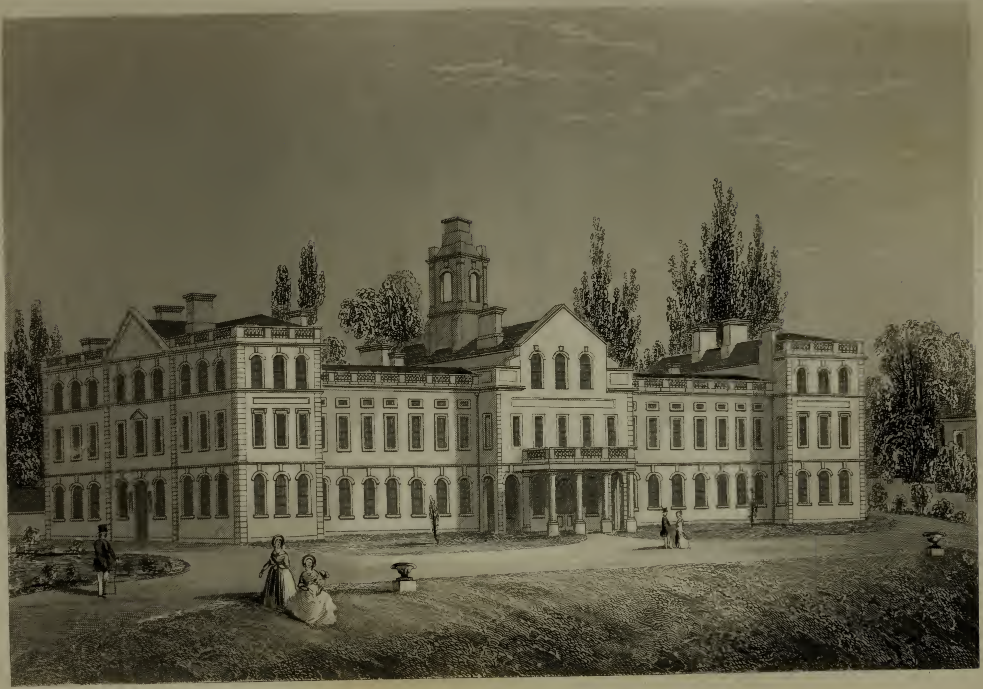
HUNGERFORD BRIDGE



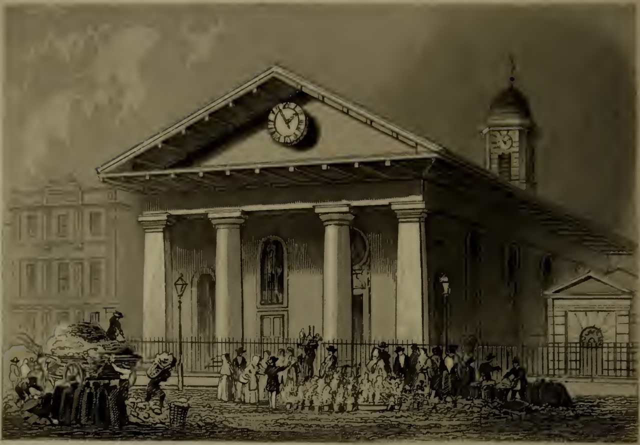
DUKE OF YORK'S COLUMN



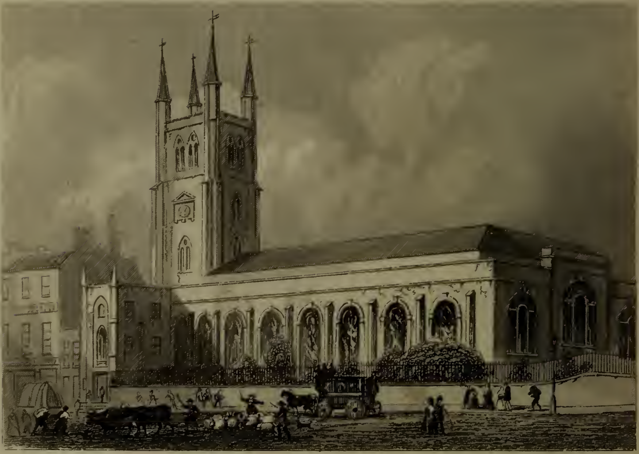
THE NEW CITY PRISON, HOLLOWAY



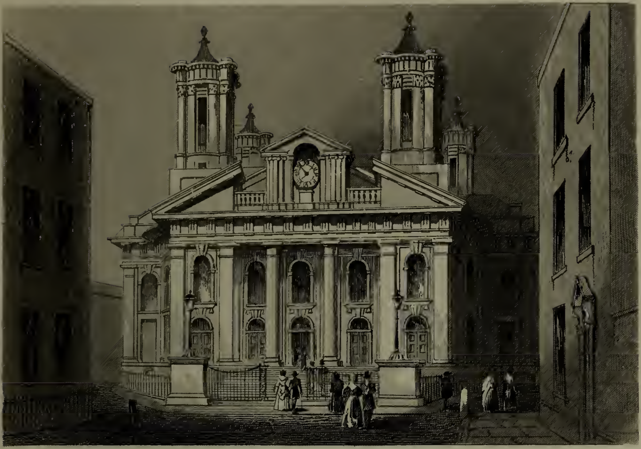
THE NEW SMALL POX HOSPITAL HIGHGATE



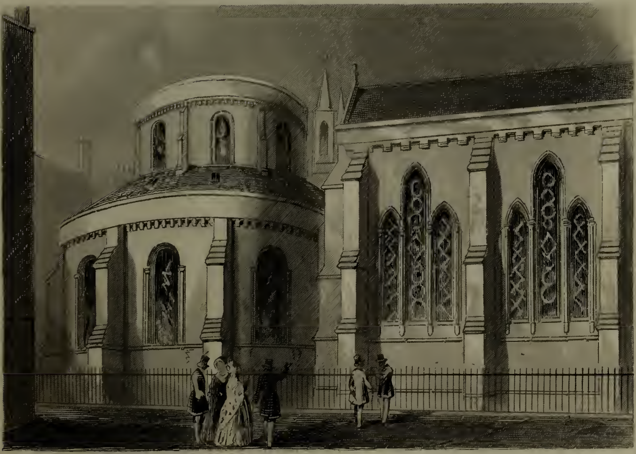
ST PAUL'S, COVENT GARDEN



ST SEPULCHRE



ST JOHN'S, WESTMINSTER



TEMPLE CHURCH

north side of the heath, at Woodlands, lived John Julius Angerstein, whose collection of paintings formed the nucleus of the National Gallery. The Princess of Wales, afterwards Queen Caroline, wife of George IV. was appointed ranger of Greenwich-park in 1806, and resided for some years at Montague House, Blackheath, which has since been taken down. The family mansion of the Earls of Dartmouth is situate on the heath. In 1780 a cavern was discovered a short distance to the north of the main Dover road on Blackheath-hill, and which was supposed to have been a place of concealment in troublous times. It contains seven large apartments, communicating with each other by arched avenues. Some of them have great domes, 36 feet high, supported by columns of chalk 43 yards in circumference. The bottom of the cavern is 50 feet from the entrance, at the extremities 160 feet, and it is descended by a flight of steps. The sides and roof are rocks of chalk, the bottom is a fine dry sand, and 170 feet below ground is a well of very fine water, 27 feet deep. Two yearly cattle fairs are held on the heath in May and October. Blackheath-park is on the right of Blackheath, on the road to Lee, and was formed upon the estate of Sir Gregory Page Turner, purchased by John Cator, Esq., of Beckenham. Adjacent to the park is *Morden College,* erected and founded by Sir John Morden, a Turkey merchant, in 1695, for the support of poor, aged, and decayed English merchants, who had been ruined by the perils of the sea, or by other inevitable misfortunes.

On the south side of Blackheath lies the pleasant and picturesque village of *Lee,* on the road from London to Maidstone. In its small but beautiful cemetery, which, though of a far older date, presents all the vernal attractions of the more colossal cemeteries of our own day, are several costly monuments of statuary and black marble. Among the eminent characters that repose here may be named Edmund Hally, the astronomer, and Parsons, the comedian.

Lewisham, a village seated on the river Ravensbourne, and which is on the borders of Surrey, joins Lee on the south. In early times it was monastic property. By purchase it came into the possession of Admiral George Legge, afterwards Earl of Dartmouth, in whose family it continues, and constitutes the second title of the earldom, the eldest son being always styled Viscount Lewisham. An ancestor of the Earls of Dartmouth was Sir Thomas Legge, citizen and skinner, sheriff, and twice Lord Mayor of London in the reign of Edward III. The parish is of great extent, comprising a considerable portion of Blackheath, and the common between Blackheath and Sydenham contains nearly 1,000 acres. Dr. Bryan Duppa, Bishop of Winchester in 1660, was born and buried in Lewisham. He remitted £30,000 to his tenants, and left £16,000 to be expended in acts of charity and munificence. So eminently pious was this prelate, that the gay Charles II., upon his knees, besought his blessing as the bishop lay on his death-bed in 1662. The establishment of a railway station at Lewisham has tended greatly to improve the neighbourhood, and some additional streets, wide and open, and chiefly filled with private dwellings, of elegant proportions and good elevation, have been constructed.

North of Blackheath, and between Greenwich and Woolwich, the village of *Charlton* is situate. In the time of William the Conqueror, the manor was held by that royal pluralist the Bishop of Bayeux. By King James I. the estate was given to Sir Adam Newton, preceptor and secretary to Prince Henry, and after the death of that royal youth, treasurer to Charles Prince of Wales. The mansion-house, a magnificent Gothic structure, was erected by him in 1612. Dr. Plot says, there was formerly in the dining-room a marble chimney-piece, so exquisitely polished, that Lord Downe could see in it a robbery committed on Blackheath, and sent out his servants who apprehended the thieves. Behind this house is a park of about 70 acres, and before the court-yard is a row of some of the oldest cypress trees in England. From Charlton, *Hanging Wood* forms a beautiful avenue to Wolwich.

Woolwich, a town in Kent, eight miles eastward of the metropolis, is one of the principal military depôts. It contains a dockyard, arsenal, military barracks, magazines, a Royal Military Academy, &c. In early times Woolwich was a small fishing town, liable to the inundations of the Thames. By the Saxons it was called *Hulviz,* signifying *the habitation,* or *the street on the creek.* In reference to the *Dockyard,* which was founded in 1512, Camden called Woolwich "the Mother Dock of England." In this dockyard, which is nearly a mile in length, and encompassed by a lofty wall, there was built in the third year of the reign of Henry VIII., the great ship called *The Harry Grace de Dieu.* Here also was constructed, in the reign of Charles I., *The Sovereign of the Seas,* the largest vessel that had hitherto been built in England, her burthen being 1637 tons. By the Dutch she was called the "Golden Devil," from the destruction which her cannon made among their seamen. She carried 176 pieces of ordnance; she had five lanthorns, one of which would contain eleven persons standing upright; and eleven anchors, the largest weighing 4,400 pounds. The ill-fated *Royal George,* which went down at Spithead, with the gallant admiral Kempenfeldt, and upwards of 400 of her crew, besides 200 women, was launched here in 1751. During the late war, the dockyard and arsenal found employment for 10,000 persons; of course the number is now much reduced.

In the *Royal Arsenal,* there is a foundry for casting brass cannon and howitzers, and in the *Laboratory* fireworks, cartridges, and other combustible missiles of war for the army and navy are made. The original cannon foundry was at the back of Upper Moorfields, near Windmill-hill, at a place subsequently converted by the Rev. John Wesley into a chapel. In 1716, the Duke of Richmond, Master-General of the Ordnance, and a large party were present to witness the recasting of some guns taken by the Duke of Marlborough from the French. Mr. Andrew Schalch, a Swiss, who happened to be present, intimated that the experiment would be attended with danger, having observed moisture on the moulds. An explosion took place, by which several persons were injured. The scientific knowledge of Schalch was appreciated by the government, and they offered him a commission to make choice of any spot within 12 miles of London, for the erection of a new foundry, over which they also proposed to make him the chief superintendent. Schalch selected Woolwich Warren, where the new building was raised, he being confirmed in the office of master-founder, which he held for the long period of 60 years, and during that period not one single accident marred any of the hazardous processes in which he was engaged. He died in 1776, at the age of ninety, and was buried in the parish church. The new foundry was first styled the Royal Arsenal by George III.

Besides the regular work-people employed in the dockyard and arsenal, convicts are forced to give their compulsory labour in these establishments; pile-driving, and other kinds of heavy work being assigned to them. These offenders are quartered in the *Hulks* or prison-ships, which are moored in the Thames adjacent to the dockyard and arsenal.

The *Military Barracks* are on Woolwich-common, and constitute an uniform and beautiful range of building. In front there is an extensive parade-ground, and the common itself affords ample verge for martial exercises, reviews, and other military spectacles. The Military Hospital, Guard House, and Veterinary Hospital are contiguous.

One of the most attractive objects to strangers visiting Woolwich, is the *Military Repository,* situate on the common. The chief building on the grounds is the *Rotunda,* a circular structure raised on an elevated site, from the north side of which there is an abrupt descent, beautifully varied with wood and water. The Rotunda, which is 120 feet in diameter, was originally erected in the gardens of Carlton House, after a design of Mr. Nash, in obedience to the commands of the Prince Regent, afterwards George IV. When the allied sovereigns visited England in 1814, they were entertained by their royal host with a magnificent banquet beneath the capacious dome of the Rotunda. This banqueting-hall was afterwards given to the military authorities at Woolwich, by whom it was placed in its present position, and converted into a museum for models of a naval and military character, and other curiosities connected with the two services. The collection is of a most interesting character, equally calculated to attract the notice of the civilian as well as the soldier

The Royal Military Academy, first founded in 1719, and held within the walls of the Arsenal, is seated on the south-eastern part of Woolwich-common, and was completed in 1806, at a cost of £150,000. The edifice was built after designs by Wyatt; it is in a castellated form, is 200 yards in length, and its principal front is towards the north. Herein are apartments appropriated to 160 cadets, besides school-rooms, lecture-rooms, the dining-hall, the offices of the lieutenant-governor and inspector-general, &c. The officers of the royal artillery and royal engineers are exclusively supplied from this school. When the cadets have passed their final examination with honour and credit, a commission in one or the other of these corps is presented to them.

The whole establishment of Woolwich, civil and military, is under the superintendence of the Master-General and the Board of Ordnance.

There is no town in the kingdom so decidedly a military one as Woolwich, almost every trade pursued in it having some reference to its gallant residents. The very public-houses in their signs exhibit all the pomp and circumstance of war, as the most attractive association to win them custom. The Barrack Tavern, the Fortune of War, the Cannon, and other symbols of the battle-field, invite the sons of Mars to offer up libations on the shrine of Bacchus.

But Woolwich, military and civil, would probably hold out little inducements to the visitor were it not for the noble and extensive common lying between the town and Charlton and Shooters-hill. Its fine promenade and health-breathing atmosphere render it a place of great resort, and the circumstance that it is one of the few open spaces near London, sacred from the destructive innovations of the builder; that its green sward is not to be obliterated by narrow streets and ungainly-looking houses, only tends to increase its popularity.

Shooters-hill, on the main road to Dover, joins Woolwich-common on the south-east. From the summit of this eminence there are fine views of London, Essex, Surrey, and even part of Sussex. Here, too, the panoramic course of the Thames is seen to great advantage. Upon this spot the London archers performed their exercises on grand occasions, and from this display the name of Shooters-hill is said to be derived. It is seated on a chalky soil, abounding with coppice-wood, which formerly was cut in great quantities for faggots, and sent by water to London, till coal fires began to be made in the upper rooms of taverns. To this hill came Henry VIII. and his Queen, Catherine of Arragon, in great splendour, one May-day from Greenwich. They were received by 200 archers attired in Lincoln green, with a captain representing Robin Hood. After witnessing the exploits of the bowmen, the King and his court partook of a magnificent banquet in the wood, and a pageant was performed for the gratification of the royal visitors. Before the road was widened on the east side of this hill in 1739, it was a notorious place for highway robberies. Notwithstanding this improvement, Shooters-hill continued for many years to yield a harvest to daring footpads; but the increase of houses, the removal of coaches from the road, and the establishment of a police-station, gave silent, but satisfactory evidence that the highwayman's "occupation's gone" in this locality. The robberies committed here were of such remote origin that Philipott, in the reign of

James I. observes, "they still continue to rob here by prescription." The steepness and narrowness of the old road, and the refuge which the adjacent woods and coppices yielded, rendered it almost impossible for a passenger to escape being waylaid by the robbers, who even levied contributions at noon-day. Shooters-hill in former times seems to have been the Black Forest of Kent, and in no ways yielded precedence to Hounslow for the number and audacity of knights of the road. In the sixth year of the reign of Richard II. measures were in contemplation to improve the highway on this hill, when an order was issued by the crown to "cut down the woods on each side of the road at Shetere's-held, leading from London to Rochester, which was become very dangerous to travellers, in compliance with the statute of Edward I., for widening roads where there were woods which afforded shelter for thieves." From this curious enactment, it would seem that we are indebted to thieves for the improvement of our highways, improvements which doubtless suggested superior modes of travelling. Road-making might have long remained in its infancy, but for the appropriative peculiarities of highwaymen; had not the necessity of the case aroused the latent genius of some early M'Adam. Nothing, however, very effectual was accomplished till 1739, when the road, as we have mentioned, was widened, and gradually Shooters-hill ceased to be the haunt of robbers, becoming what it now is, the site of a few villas, and handsome residences, placed in the centre of scenery surpassingly beautiful, and not excelled by that of any locality within so moderate a distance of town. On the brow of the hill to the south of the road is a triangular tower, about 45 feet in height, called Severndroog Castle. It was erected by Lady James, the relict of Sir William James, Bart., who having the East India Company's marine forces under his command, reduced, in 1755, a strong fort of that name on the Malabar coast, belonging to Conagree Angria, a notorious freebooter, who had founded a piratical government, and was the terror of the

Eastern seas. In the lower room of this tower are Indian weapons, armour, &c., brought as trophies from the stronghold of the Malabar buccaneers; and the details of the assault and capture are represented in six tableaux on the ceiling of a higher floor. The summit is embattled, and has turrets at the angles. From this elevation, which is the highest point of Shooters-hill, a beautiful and extensive prospect is obtained.

Eltham, a beautiful village on the road from London to Maidstone, is situate about a mile-and-a-half to the right of the ascent of Shooter's-hill. Its early name was Ealdham, the old mansion or dwelling. It was one of the many possessions of Bishop Odo, the half-brother of the Conqueror. In the reign of Edward I. the manor became the property of the noble family of De Vesci, from whom it was fraudulently obtained by Anthony Bec, Bishop of Durham, in his character of a trustee. This prelate is by some said to have built the palace of Eltham; but others suppose it to have been of earlier origin, as in 1270 Henry III., with his Queen and court, kept a grand public Christmas at Eltham. Isabel, Queen of Edward II. resided at the palace, where she gave birth to a son, in 1315, who was called John of Eltham. Here Edward III. gave a sumptuous entertainment to his royal captive, King John of France; and two parliaments were held in this place by the same monarch in 1329 and 1375. Edward IV. repaired the palace at great expense; and in 1483 celebrated his Christmas here in a very magnificent and costly manner, 2,000 persons being daily fed at his charge. His daughter Bridget, a nun at Dartford was born at Eltham. Most of the succeeding sovereigns, till the reign of Henry VIII., resided in this palace, which on the rise of Greenwich was gradually abandoned by royalty. Henry VIII. kept his Christmas here in 1526, but there being but few attendants on account of the plague, it was called the *still Christmas.* The last visit it received was from James I. in 1612. In after years the palace and manor were granted by the crown to a private individual for a term of years, perpetually renewable. The author of the *Beauties of England,* thus describes the transition which time and circumstances have effected in this once stately pile :—" The change which the palace of Eltham has undergone is exceedingly striking. The edifice, the abode of sovereigns, the birth-place of princes, is now a farm ; and the beautiful great hall, where parliaments were held, and entertainments given in all the pomp of feudal grandeur, is used as a barn for the housing and thrashing of corn. The area in which the buildings stand is surrounded by a high stone wall, that has been partially repaired and strengthened by arches, &c., of brick, and a broad and deep moat, over which are two bridges, nearly opposite each other. On the north and south sides, the hall is a most noble remain, measuring 100 feet in length, 56 in breadth, and about 60 in height. The windows have been extremely elegant, but are now bricked up. The roof is of timber curiously wrought, in the manner of that at Westminster-hall, and richly ornamented by finely-carved pendants. Three parks well provided, and including together more than 1,200 acres, were formerly connected with this palace."

In Eltham church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, Sir William James, the conqueror of the pirates of Angria, is buried. Here also rest the remains of Thomas Dogget, the eminent low comedian, who dying in 1721, bequeathed a coat and silver badge, to be rowed for yearly on the Thames on the 1st of August.

Formerly a weekly market and two annual fairs were held at Eltham, but these have been long discontinued, and Eltham from having been the favoured residence of royalty, has subsided into a quiet but picturesque roadside village.

CHAPTER VII.

THE THAMES.

SOURCE OF THE RIVER — ITS VARIOUS NAMES — WINDSOR CASTLE—ETON COLLEGE—HAMPTON COURT—KINGSTON-ON-THAMES—TWICKENHAM—RICHMOND—KEW GARDENS — ISLEWORTH — BRENTFORD — CHISWICK — HAMMERSMITH — FULHAM — PUTNEY—WANDSWORTH—BATTERSEA —LAMBETH PALACE, ETC.

We now purpose to review that noble stream upon which the capital is seated—the Thames, equally famed for the rare argosies of wealth which float upon its bosom, and for the exquisite scenery which diversifies its banks from Cirencester to Gravesend. And upon the banks of this noble river, once crowded with royal and baronial residences, the ancient and modern edifices that are yet to be found attest, that although the Thames is no longer a silent highway, its immediate localities are the favourite abodes of the learned, the great, the wealthy. The ancient castle of Windsor; Lambeth Palace; that gorgeous pile of our own day, the new Houses of Parliament; and the Tower of London, that fine old fortress, the walls of which are impressive chroniclers of the past annals of England; are alone sufficient to impart celebrity to the shores of any river, however famed in ancient song or modern history. Sir John Denham thus apostrophises the chief of English rivers:—

> "Nor are his blessings to his banks confined,
> But free and common as the sea or wind,
> When he to boast or to disperse his stores,
> Full of the tributes of his grateful shores,
> Visits the world, and in his flying towers
> Brings home to us, and makes both Indies ours;
> Finds wealth where 'tis, bestows it where it wants,
> Cities in deserts, woods in cities plants;
> So that to us nothing, no place is strange,
> While his fair bosom is *the world's exchange!*"

The Thames takes its rise from a spring in the Cotswold Hill about four miles from Cheltenham, and two from Cirencester, both in the county of Gloucester. Two streams rise, one from fourteen springs, which by a strange partiality for condensation are called the Seven Wells, and the other from four springs near Ullen Farm, called by the people in the neighbourhood the Thames-head, notwithstanding the first-mentioned stream called the Churn is the real source of the Thames. About a mile from their respective sources these waters unite and form the river Churn. In the summer months the stream does not exceed five feet in width, but in winter it frequently swells into a torrent, overflows its banks, and rushes into the meadows around. From Somerford the stream flows to Cricklade in Wiltshire, being about twenty miles south-east from its source, receiving in its progress several rivulets. It widens considerably in its way to Lechlade, receiving on the way the Ray and the Cole, both on the south bank. Immediately below Lechlade it absorbs another tributary stream, the Lech emanating from the Cotswold Hills. At Lechlade the counties of Gloucester, Berks, Wilts, and Oxford unite, and here the river becomes navigable, and is joined to the Severn by a canal. The stream now takes the name of Isis, flowing eastward fourteen miles to the junction of the Windrush, engulfing smaller streams in every direction. Below the point where it mingles with the Windrush, the river curves to the north, receiving the Evenlode on its northern bank. It then takes a southward turn, and flows to Oxford, where its waters are blended with those of the Cherwell. From this point of union the river runs sixteen miles south-east to the junction of the Thame on its north bank at Dorchester in Oxfordshire, a small town about nine miles from the university; and then bends considerably west towards Abingdon, where it receives the Ock on the south side. The mingling of the Thame and the Isis forms,

> "The most loved of all the Ocean's sons."

and for the remainder of its course the river bears the time-honoured title of the Thames, and the combination of the words Thame and Isis are by some believed to be the true etymology of its name.

From Dorchester the course of the Thames is south-east, twenty-two miles in a winding channel by Wallingford to the junction of a considerable tributary, the Kennet, near Reading, which unites with the Thames on the right. Hence the river flows eastward in a winding channel to Windsor, making first an extensive circuit of the north by Henley, Great Marlow, and Maidenhead.

The town of *Windsor* in Berkshire is distant twenty miles from London. It is rescued from comparative insignificance by its ancient fabric *Windsor Castle,* which has been for many years the favourite abode of the sovereigns of England. The land which the castle and the town of Windsor cover, was bestowed by Edward the Confessor upon the abbey of Westminster, from the authorities of which William I. regained it by exchange. The Conqueror erected a kind of shooting-box, and made the adjacent territory a royal chase. Additional buildings were raised by Henry I., and henceforth the royal residence was known as Windsor Castle, which was extended, and rendered more commodious by succeeding sovereigns. St. George's Chapel, the burial-place of the monarchs and the princes of the blood-royal of England, was founded by Edward IV., and the North terrace was added by Queen Elizabeth. The most important alterations were commenced in the reign of George IV., when a great part of the castle was reconstructed, and restorations undertaken after the plans of Sir Jeffrey Wyatville, an outlay of nearly one million of money being incurred, the works, with some intervals, being continued to the present time. Passing through the gateway of the castle, *St. George's Chapel,* which is a fine specimen of Gothic architecture, appears in front. The choir is enriched with the stalls and banners of the Knights of the Garter; and there are numerous monuments to the illustrious dead in this chapel. The Round Tower or keep stands on an artificial mound, its elevation above which is 80 feet; the watch-tower is 25 feet loftier; and the whole altitude above the quadrangle is 148 feet. From the battlements of this tower a landscape of unparalleled extent is seen, embracing the counties of Middlesex, Essex, Hertford, Bedford, Buckingham, Berks, Oxford, Wilts, Hants, Surrey, Sussex, and Kent. The state apartments, which are superbly fitted up, and hung with valuable paintings, are open free to the public on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. Cards of admission may be procured from the leading printsellers, from whom official guide-books may be purchased for the trifling sum of one penny. The attendants are not suffered to take fees from the visitors.

On the south and east, a plantation called the *Little Park,* engirdles the castle, and in this enclosure is still seen that venerable tree, the oak of Herne the hunter, at the foot of which Shakspere has represented in the *Merry Wives of Windsor,* that unwieldy hero, Falstaff, suffering penance. The *Great Park* lies on the southern side of the castle, and is united to the Little Park by a fine avenue of elm trees, planted in the reign of Queen Anne, three miles in length, called the Long Walk. At the end of the Great Park we reach Virginia Water, the largest expanse of artificial water in England, with the accessaries of a Chinese fishing temple, miniature frigates, the remains of a Grecian temple, and other fanciful additions suggested by the taste of George IV.

Eton, in Buckinghamshire, is connected with Windsor by a bridge. *Eton College* was founded by Henry VI., in 1440, for the maintenance of a provost, ten priests, four clerks, six choristers, twenty-five poor grammar-scholars, and a tutor to instruct them, and twenty-five poor men, to whom no more onerous duty was assigned than to pray for the king. There are now on the foundation seventy king's scholars, and between six and seven hundred scholars not on the foundation. To this school are attached several scholarships at King's College, Cambridge, for scholars, and forty livings for the fellows. Many of our most distinguished divines, lawyers, statesmen, and poets have been educated at Eton: among the latter may be named the late Sir Robert Peel and Lord Byron.

Not pausing at Staines, Chertsey, and other small towns, the banks of which are washed by the river, we proceed to *Hampton,* in Middlesex, a village pleasantly situate on the Thames, opposite to the influx of the river Mole, and about fourteen miles from London. Adjacent is the royal palace of *Hampton Court,* which was originally built of brick by Cardinal Wolsey, who commenced the edifice in 1515. That haughty and magnificent prelate lived here in such princely style that he even excited the envy of his royal master, and by a stroke of policy, which he hoped would defeat the designs of his foes, he gave the palace, with all its costly contents, to Henry VIII. in 1526. Here Edward VI. was born, and within a few days of his birth his mother, Jane Seymour, died. James I. occasionally resided at Hampton Court, and in the early part of his reign Charles I. spent much of his time in this palace. Here also he was detained a prisoner by the parliamentarians, and when he endeavoured to fly from Hampton Court, the gloomy hold of Carisbrooke Castle was made his dungeon. During the Commonwealth much of the superb furniture of this palace, and many of its paintings were sold and scattered, and of the latter, Mr. James Thorne says, that numbers of them grace the palaces of the continent. Hampton Court was bought by Cromwell towards the close of his career, and was used by the Protector as his chief residence. Charles II. and James II. occasionally sojourned here, and it was the favourite abode of William III. In 1690 the greater part of the old palace was taken down, and the splendid front towards the gardens erected by Sir Christopher Wren, for King William. The last sovereign who made this palace an occasional residence, was George II. The private apartments are now appropriated to decayed members of noble families while the state apartments, with their costly appurtenances and gems of arts, and the extensive pleasure gardens, are freely thrown open to the public on every day except Friday, so that the excursions to Hampton Palace are of more frequent occurrence than to any other royal demesne in the neighbourhood of London, except Greenwich. Of the treasures of art which here abound, space will not allow us generally to speak; we must confine ourselves to a brief notice of the celebrated *Cartoons,* by *Raphael,* of which seven decorate the walls of Hampton Court. In his interesting work, *Rambles by Rivers,* Mr. James Thorne relates, that when Leo X. ascended the pontifical chair he determined to complete the adornments of the papal chapel, by filling the vacant spaces on the walls with magnificent pictures worked in tapestry, and heightened by gold. Raphael was the artist engaged, and he produced eleven designs, of which the following are at Hampton Court:—The Death of Ananias; Elymas the Sorcerer struck with Blindness; St. Paul and St. Peter at the Beautiful Gate; the Miraculous Draught of Fishes; Paul and Barnabas at Lystra; Paul Preaching at Athens; and Christ's Charge to Peter. The four missing are, The Coronation of the Virgin; The Conversion of St. Paul; The Stoning of St. Stephen, and The Deliverance of Paul from Prison. They were painted in 1514, and in 1515 were cut up into strips and sent into Flanders to be copied in tapestry by the workmen of Arras. The tapestries were finished and sent to Rome, but the designs remained unnoticed and neglected in Flanders. By Rubens Charles I. was persuaded to purchase them as designs for the tapestry-works which he had founded at Mortlake. When the royal effects were sold, Cromwell purchased the cartoons for the nation, giving £300 for them. In the reign of Charles II. they were again sent to Mortlake to be copied on tapestry-work, and that done they were thrown aside as lumber. By William III. they were collected and restored, and the gallery in which they are now placed erected for them by Sir Christopher Wren. In 1766 they were removed to

Buckingham House; they were afterwards transferred to Windsor, and finally brought back to Hampton Court.

Opposite to Hampton Court on the Surrey side of the Thames, is the picturesque old town of *Kingston-on-Thames*, which during the sway of the Saxons was a royal town; it having been called Cyningestane from its owning the stone on which the Saxon Kings sat when crowned. In 1850 this stone itself was inaugurated with much ceremony, being placed in a prominent position in the centre of the town, and an iron railing erected round it. In 838, Egbert, first king of all England, held a general council here. The following kings are said to have had the ceremony of their coronations in this town: Edward the Elder crowned, 900; his son Athelstan; Edmund; Eldred or Edred (who is supposed to have assumed the title of King of Great Britain), in 946; Edwy or Edwin; Edward the Martyr; and Ethelred, in 978. The old bridge over the Thames was believed to be coeval with the late London-bridge; the present structure, comprising seven arches, was opened in 1828.

Continuing our course along the left bank of the Thames, we reach the pleasant villages of *Teddington* and *Twickenham*. The latter place is celebrated as containing Strawberry-hill, the villa of that amusing writer of the last century, Horace Walpole, Earl of Orford, and likewise the house and gardens of Alexander Pope. The remains of the poet rest in Twickenham church, his monument bearing an inscription written by his friend, Bishop Warburton. On the bank of the river is a large brick mansion, with corridors projecting from its front. The Princess of Denmark, afterwards Queen Anne, resided here for some time; and Louis Phillippe, the late king of the French, became its tenant during his first exile, when the star of Robespierre was in the ascendant. It has since been called Orleans House.

We now approximate to the populous village of *Richmond*, in Surrey, one of the most beautiful spots on the banks of the Thames. Its original name was Sheen, a word which, in the Saxon tongue, signifies resplendent. In the royal palace of Sheen Edward I. and Edward II. resided, and here the third Edward closed his long reign, his death accelerated by regret for the loss of his gallant son, the Black Prince. Richard II. occupied this palace at the commencement of his reign, and here died his consort, Anne, who first introduced among English ladies the seemly fashion of the side-saddle. Henry V. restored the palace, and founded three religious houses near it. In 1499 the palace was almost entirely consumed by fire. It was rebuilt in a sumptuous manner by Henry VII., who commanded that the village should change its name from Sheen to Richmond, he having borne the title of Earl of Richmond (in Yorkshire) before he obtained the crown. The palace was finished in 1501, and the king died here in April, 1509. At the beginning of his reign Henry VIII. was a frequent resident at Richmond, and the palace was, for a short time, the abode of Cardinal Wolsey after he had given away Hampton-court to his avaricious master. On the twenty-fourth of March, 1603, Queen Elizabeth died at Richmond Palace, having previously intimated that she wished James of Scotland to succeed her. After the death of Elizabeth Richmond Palace was rarely visited by royalty, and it gradually fell into decay. On the west side of Richmond-green an old archway remains, a lonely relic to indicate where stood the once favourite dwelling of some of the mightiest sovereigns that ever swayed the British sceptre.

Of the magnificent and romantic view gained from Richmond-hill, we may be justified for quoting two authorities, one a prose commentator, the other the accomplished poet of the *Seasons*. The former writes:—"A short walk will bring us to Richmond-terrace, where suddenly the matchless prospects burst upon the view. It is purely a *beautiful* landscape which is spread before us, holding to the rugged grandeur of other famous scenes, the same relation as the soft grace of feminine loveliness does to the severer character of manly strength. Of all that belongs to the beautiful in scenery little is wanting. Wood and water, softly swelling hills and hazy distance, with village spires and lordly halls, are blended in beautiful harmony. From the gentle slope of the hill a vast expanse of country stretches far away, till the distance is closed by the hills of Buckinghamshire on the north-west, and the Surrey downs on the south-east; and all the intermediate space is one wide valley of the most luxuriant fertility, but appearing to the eye a succession of densely wooded tracts, broken and diversified by a few undulations of barer uplands; while here and there a line of light vapoury smoke, with a tower or spire, marks the site of a goodly town, or humble village. In the midst the broad placid river, studded with islets, and its surface alive with flocks of swans and innumerable pleasure skiffs, winds gracefully away till lost among the foliage, only to be occasionally tracked afterwards by a glittering thread of silver, seen as the sun glances suddenly upon it between the dark trunks of the trees. And to the exceeding loveliness something of majesty is added by Windsor's royal towers, which in clear weather loom out grandly on the distant horizon."* Thomson thus closes a fine apostrophe to Richmond Hill:—

"Here let us trace the matchless vale of Thames,
Far-winding up to where the Muses haunt,
In Twit'nam bowers; to royal Hampton's pile,
To Claremont's terraced height, and Esher's groves.
Enchanting vale! beyond whate'er the Muse
Has of Achaia, or Hesperia sung!
O vale of bliss! O softly swelling hills!
On which the Power of Cultivation lies,
And joys to see the wonder of his toil.
Heavens! what a goodly prospect spreads around,
Of hills, and dales, and woods, and lawns, and spires,
And glittering towns, and gilded streams, till all
The stretching landscape into smoke decays."†

Adjacent to the terrace are the entrance gates of *Richmond Park*, originally called the Great or New Park, (to distinguish it from the old or lower Park attached to Richmond palace) which was enclosed by Charles I. In the reign of George II., the Princess Amelia being ranger of this park, the public right of way was disputed by royalty. John Lewis, a brewer of Richmond, espoused the popular cause, and the result was a trial at Kingston, when the right of the public to use the footpaths across the park was established; and subsequently a right of a carriage-way was granted. Misfortunes befel Lewis, and in his reversed circumstances he was not abandoned by the people of Richmond, on whom he had conferred so permanent a benefit. They settled a pension on him for life. The park is eight miles in circumference, and contains 2,253 acres, of which not quite 100 are in Richmond parish; there are 650 acres in Mortlake, 265 in Petersham, 230 in Putney, and about 1,000 in Kingston.

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* James Thorne.

† The Seasons.

James Thomson, the accomplished poet, lived at Richmond, the delightful scenery of which suggested some of the finest passages in his master-poem. He died in 1748, and was buried in the parish church (dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen,) of Richmond. At the west end of the north aisle there is on the wall a brass tablet to his memory. The latter part of the inscription states that "the earl of Buchan, unwilling that so good a man and sweet a poet should be without a memorial, denoted the place of his interment for the satisfaction of his admirers, in the year of our Lord, 1792.

> "'Father of light and life, thou good supreme!
> O! teach me what is good, teach me thyself;
> Save me from folly, vanity, and woe,
> From every low pursuit, and feed my soul
> With knowledge, conscious peace, and virtue pure
> Sacred, substantial, never fading bliss!'"

The Rev. Gilbert Wakefield; Dr. Edward Moore, the author of *Zeluco*, and the father of the hero of Corunna; Mrs. Yates the celebrated actress of the last century; and that threatrical luminary of our own time, Edmund Kean, also repose here. Viscount Fitzwilliam, who died in 1816, is buried in Richmond churchyard. This nobleman bequeathed his valuable collection of books, prints, paintings, medals, &c., to the university of Cambridge for the purpose of establishing a museum; together with £100,000 South-Sea Annuities, to erect a building for their reception, and to defray other incidental costs.

The natural beauties of Richmond render it a favourite resort of the inhabitants of the capital, and omnibus, steam-boat, and rail, bring it within a moderate distance of London. There are numerous hotels and inns for the accommodation of visitors, of which the principal is the Star and Garter. From the balcony of the assembly-room a view is gained of seven counties.

About a mile from Richmond, and in the same county, is *Kew*, formerly a hamlet to Kingston, and made an independent parish in 1769. It has undergone many mutations of name. In the reign of Henry VII. it was written Kayhough; afterwards it was successively called Kayhowe, Kyahoo, Keyhowe, Keye, Kayo, and Kewe. A stone bridge over the Thames, erected in 1789, connects Kew with Brentford. Kew Palace originally belonged to Mr. Samuel Molineaux, secretary to the Prince of Wales, afterwards George II. The estate was purchased by George III. soon after he became king, and has ever since been the occasional residence of members of the royal family. The palace was taken down by George III. in 1789, and the royal family afterwards dwelt in an antique red brick manor-house, commonly honoured by the name of Kew Palace. At the opening of the present century a new palace was commenced at Kew, which, however, was left in an unfinished state, and demolished by command of George IV. *Kew Gardens*, which are considered the finest public gardens in Europe, cover the site of old Kew Palace and its grounds. Sir William Chambers erected many fantastic buildings, of which the principal one remaining is the *Chinese Pagoda*, consisting of ten stories, and 163 feet in height. The *Botanic Garden*, commenced by the Princess of Wales, mother of George

III., was tended with great care in the reign of George III., and became deservedly famous. In 1840 this garden, which had previously been a private garden belonging to the royal family, was relinquished by Her Majesty, Queen Victoria, and placed under the control of the Commissioners of Woods and Forests, with the view of rendering it available to the general good. Plants from all climes and countries were added, the grounds greatly augmented, new buildings raised, and every exertion made to place the garden on a footing with the leading one of Europe, a comparison with which it will most assuredly bear. Among the plant-houses the chief is a structure called the New Palm-Stove, which comprehends a centre and two wings, covering an area 326 feet long; the centre is 100 feet in width, and 66 feet in height to the summit of the lantern; the wings 50 feet wide, and 30 feet high. No fewer than 45,000 square feet of glass are required to cover this vast fabric. Probably antecedent to the erection of the Crystal Palace, this was the most colossal glass-house in the kingdom. Cocoa-nuts and palm-trees, and other exotics from the Indies and Polynesia fill the interior; and the smaller plant-houses offer a boundless variety of orchidaceæ and other rare vegetable specimens. The public are admitted gratuitously to the Botanic Gardens every day throughout the year, except Sundays, from one o'clock till six.

Having noticed the chief features in Kew, we pass on to *Isleworth,* a village nearly opposite, on the northern bank of the river. It derives celebrity from *Sion House,* the seat of the Duke of Northumberland. The original building was Sion Abbey, a monastery of the order of St. Bridget, founded by Henry V. for the maintenance of sixty nuns and twenty-five monks. The recluses of this monastery lived in a style of great splendour: when dissolved by Henry VIII. its yearly revenue amounted to the great sum (in those days) of £1,944: 11*s.*: 11*d.* The king did not destroy the building, but kept it for his own use, and his ill-fated consort, Katherine Howard, was detained here till her execution. When the tyrant yielded to the fiat of a more inexorable tyrant—Death, his corpse rested in Sion Abbey on its way from London to Windsor. The abbey was given by Edward VI. to the Protector Somerset, and by this proud and luxurious noble, a superb mansion was built upon its site. When disgrace and ruin overwhelmed Somerset, Sion House became the property of the Duke of Northumberland, and here it was that the accomplished and unhappy Jane Gray reluctantly consented to accept that crown which to her proved a diadem of thorns. Upon the accession of Queen Mary, Sion House became again the dwelling-place of monks; and in the reign of Elizabeth it reverted to the crown. It was granted to the earl of Northumberland in 1604. For being a supposed accomplice in the gunpowder treason, he was imprisoned and amerced in the enormous penalty of £30,000 to the king. He remained a prisoner in the Tower for fifteen years before he could raise this heavy sum, notwithstanding which he was enabled to make great additions to Sion House. In 1646, the Dukes of York and Gloucester, and the Princess Elizabeth, the children of Charles I., were sent here as prisoners by an order of Parliament, and found a humane keeper in the Earl of Northumberland, at whose instance the King was permitted to have interviews with his offspring. Sion House has since remained in the possession of the Northumberland family, and with its gardens, conservatories, and hot-houses, is considered one of the finest seats on the banks of the Thames.

A little lower on the same side of the Thames is *Brentford,* the county town for Middlesex, characterised as

> "Brentford's tedious town,
> For dirty streets, and white-legged chickens known."

It is named after the river Brent, which here empties itself into the Thames. "The bridge that crosses it at Brentford was in early times maintained by imposition, which strikingly marks the condition of the Israelitish race in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. In the ninth year of the reign of Edward I. a toll was granted for three years in aid of the bridge of 'Braynford.' All Jews and Jewesses who passed over it on horseback were to pay a penny; on foot a halfpenny; other passengers were exempted. A toll for the like term was granted 5 Edward III.; another for five years, 43 Edward III. If Jews were as plentiful in Brentford then, as they now are, such a tax might yield a tolerable revenue."* Times are certainly very much changed, for now the Jews are the lessees of some of our chief turnpike-tolls, and instead of disbursing for, receive a rich harvest from tollage. At Brentford, in 1016, King Edmund Ironsides defeated the Danes; and here in 1642 a contest took place between Prince Rupert and the parliamentarians, in which the former surprised the town, and, but for the arrival of Lord Essex, might have greatly improved the posture of the King's affairs.

The pleasant village of *Mortlake*, Surrey, a short distance below Kew Bridge was, as we have previously hinted, the seat of the English tapestry works in the time of Charles I. Dr. Dee, the celebrated astrologer and reputed magician in the reign of Elizabeth, lived at Mortlake. "I have heard," writes Sir Thomas Browne to Elias Ashmole, "Dr. Arthur Dee say, that he lived in Bohemia with his father, Dr. Dee, both at Prague and other parts of Bohemia. The Prince, or Count Rosenberg, was their great patron, who delighted much in alchemy. I have heard him affirm, and sometimes with oaths, that he had seen projection made, and transmutation of pewter dishes and flagons into silver, which the goldsmiths of Prague bought of them; and that Count Rosenberg played at quoits with silver quoits made by projection as before: that this transmutation was made by a powder they had, which was found in some old place, and a book lying by it, contained nothing but hieroglyphics, which book his father bestowed much time upon; but I could not hear that he could make it out." Notwithstanding Dee's reputation for converting the baser into the precious metals, notwithstanding his pretended power of raising spirits, he found great difficulty, towards the close of his career, in raising the wind; being enforced "many times to sell some book or other to buy his dinner with;" for every magician cannot exorcise the most terrible of all fiends, hunger. He died at Mortlake, deplorably poor. The remains of John Partridge, the almanac-maker, rest in the churchyard of the village.

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* *Rambles by Rivers.*

Mortlake is joined by the village of *Barnes*, which, with its common, lies somewhat inland. In the Doomsday Book it is called *Berne*, the Saxon word for a barn. At *Barnes Elms*, so called from the stately trees growing, the manor-house of the village was erected, and here Jacob Tonson, the celebrated bookseller, lived and died.

Chiswick is on the opposite side of the river. Here the Duke of Devonshire has a magnificent seat erected after the designs of Richard, last Earl of Burlington. The beautiful gardens of the *Horticultural Society* adjoin, and upon the occasion of the fêtes of this society, the grounds of Chiswick House are often liberally thrown open to the public. In Chiswick churchyard are the tombs of some memorable individuals. Among the names here recorded we find those of the Earl of Macartney, famous for his embassy to China; Ugo Foscolo; Philip Loutherbourg, the artist; and William Hogarth.

Hammersmith, on the same side of the Thames, is connected with Barnes by a handsome *Suspension Bridge*, erected in 1827 at a cost of £80,000, after the designs of Mr. J. T. Clarke. It is composed of two square towers, with pilasters of the Doric order, with apertures through them for the road-way. These towers sustain several massy chains attached to the flooring of the bridge. The expenses of the bridge are defrayed by a toll. "They have an odd tradition," says Mr. Thorne, "respecting the name of the place. Once upon a time, it is said, there lived here a giant and his wife, or sister, who worked like

Birmingham nailors, both of them at the anvil. The lady's forge was on one side of the river, the gentleman's on the other. From some unexplained cause they had but one hammer between them. When, therefore, he wanted this very necessary instrument, he used to shout 'hammer!' and the strong-armed dame incontinently flung it across the water to him. When she needed it, she used to cry 'Smith,' and he very politely tossed it back again." Hammersmith is a hamlet to Fulham, about four miles from London. Near the bridge there formerly stood a mansion of celebrity, called *Brandenburg House.* It was built in the reign of Charles I. by Sir Nicholas Crispe, at an outlay of £23,000. Prince Rupert purchased it from the nephew of the builder, and gave it to his beautiful mistress, Margaret Hughes, a much admired actress in the reign of Charles II. In 1748 the house was bought by George Bubb Dodington, afterwards Lord Melcombe Regis, who repaired and modernised it by giving it the name of La Trappe, from the celebrated monastery of that name in France. He also built a magnificent gallery for statues and antiques; the floor was inlaid with various marbles, and the door-case supported by two columns richly ornamented with lapis lazuli. In 1692 the mansion was purchased by the Margrave of Brandenburg-Anspach, who having abdicated his dominions in favour of the King of Prussia, received from that monarch a large yearly pension. His serene highness married Elizabeth, Dowager Lady Craven, and sister of the Earl of Berkeley. Under his auspices Brandenburg House became one of the gayest places in the vicinity of London. Festivities and private theatricals were constantly taking place within its hospitable walls, and the Margravine was eminently successful in drawing the votaries of pleasure to the shrine of which she was the presiding spirit. In after years, associations of a more mournful character attach to Brandenburg House. It became the residence of Queen Caroline, the consort of George IV., and here a few days after the coronation of that sovereign the unhappy lady died, probably of a broken heart, and not, as was absurdly alleged at the time, from the effects of poison administered by some assassin in the pay of the court. Shortly after her Majesty's death, Brandenburg House was taken down.

A short distance north of Hammersmith we reach the village of *Fulham*, the manor of which is said to have belonged to the bishops of London before the Norman Conquest. Fulham Palace, an ancient brick structure, with its planted gardens stretching to the river, has long been the principal residence of the bishops of London. Fulham can boast of several distinguished residents who have sought in its beautiful seclusion a retreat from the toil and cares of the metropolis. Among them were Sir Thomas Bodley, the distinguished founder of the Bodleian Library at Oxford, Lord Bacon, Locke, Swift, Samuel Richardson, and that prince of good fellows, an enemy to no one but himself, Theodore Hooke.

Putney Bridge, a ricketty wooden structure erected in 1729, at a cost of nearly £24,000, and the toll of which is still continued, connects Fulham with *Putney*, a village of considerable pretensions in Surrey. The ferry of Putney was of great antiquity, and is mentioned in Doomsday Book as yielding a yearly revenue of twenty shillings to the lord of the manor. The church, dedicated to Saint Mary, is a very ancient structure, Archbishop Winchelsey having held an ordination in it in 1302. In 1647 Cromwell fixed the head-quarters of the army at Putney. The general officers were quartered on the inhabitants, and held their councils in the church, sitting round the communion-table, but before they opened business Hugh Peters, or some other Puritan divine, generally favoured them with a sermon, which must have been excellent, indeed, if length were the criterion of merit. Thomas Cromwell Earl of Essex, Nicholas West, Bishop of Ely, and Gibbon, the historian, were among the eminent natives of Putney. At Bowling-green House, on Putney-heath, that illustrious statesman, William Pitt. expired on

23rd of January, 1806. It is recorded, that an individual calling at the house found the dead body of the man who, when alive, held the destiny of nations in his hands, abandoned, not even a servant remaining to watch over the relic of departed greatness. What a commentary on the base, time-serving sycophantic spirit of those who dignify themselves by the name of "the world." Worldly, indeed, they prove themselves, without one spark of heaven in the composition of their natures; deficient in one indication to show that they have been created in the image of their Maker.

Quitting Putney and its pleasant residences, we stroll along the banks of the river till we reach the populous village of *Wandsworth.* It is seated on the little river Wandle near its confluence with the Thames, and was anciently called Wandlesworth. For nearly a century and a half the village has been known as the seat of several manufactures and works requiring the aid of water-power. Here are manufactures of hats, bolting-cloth, of coach and livery-lace, of printed calicoes and kerseymeres; dye-houses, iron, oil, and white lead mills, and vinegar-works, and distilleries. In this village the Company of Fishmongers have rebuilt their almshouses, a handsome pile of white stone buildings, and for situation and air very superior to the original fabric in Newington-butts. A county gaol is also in the course of erection at Wandsworth. The hills on each side of Wandsworth are distinguished as East-hill and West-hill, and are crowned with several noble mansions and villas. From the former Harrow, Hampstead, and Highgate may be seen in the distance; and from the latter Merton, Tooting, Dulwich, Sydenham, and Shooters-hill. The Common is a healthy appendage to the village. In 1540 Griffith Clarke, the vicar of Wandsworth, with his curate, his servant, and a friar named Ware, were hanged and quartered for refusing to acknowledge Henry VIII. as the head of the church.

From Wandsworth we proceed to *Battersea,* the adjacent village. Its original name was *Patrick's Ea.* Before the Conquest the manor belonged to Earl Harold, and was given by the Conqueror to Westminster Abbey, in exchange for Windsor. Upon the dissolution of religious houses the property reverted to the Crown, and after several changes of ownership, came into the possession of Earl Spencer. Henry St. John, Viscount Bolingbroke, one of its former possessors, was born in Battersea, and died here in 1751. His monument, by Roubilliac, is to be seen over the communion-table in the church. Of Bolingbroke House, the greater part of which was taken down in 1788, a wonderful account is left. It is said to have contained forty rooms on a floor. A horizontal air-mill for the purpose of grinding malt for distillation was erected on the site of the gardens and terrace, and this edifice was removed in 1828. Battersea has long been famous for market-gardens. Here asparagus, cabbages, turnips, and other vegetables, are produced in great perfection.

Battersea Bridge, a wooden structure over the Thames, was built in 1771, under the direction of Mr. Holland, at a cost of about £23,000. It connects Battersea with Chelsea, which latter place we have already noticed in our western perigrinations. In Battersea-fields, a low marshy tract on the banks of the river, is the *Red House*, the grounds of which have been long notorious for sparrow and pigeon-matches, and other pastimes prejudicial to ornithological existence. Its destiny is, however, sealed, for it is shortly to be removed, to make way for the new Battersea-park, and at this point a new suspension-bridge is to be constructed across the river.

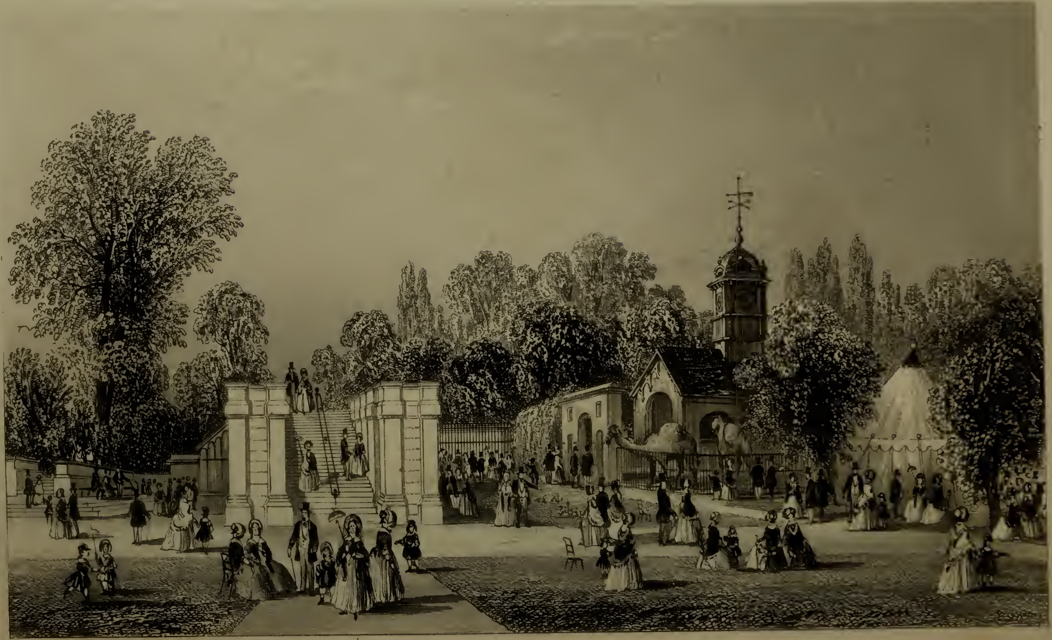
Between Battersea and Vauxhall is the straggling lane of *Nine Elms*, the rustic character of which has been entirely changed by its becoming the seat of railway traffic. The original London terminus of the South Western Railway was at Nine Elms. Since the extension of the line to Waterloo-road, this place has been converted ito the goods station, immediately opposite to which is a steam-boat pier, whence passengers are conveyed either to Chelsea or to London-bridge.

We emerge from Nine Elms into the *Wandsworth-road,* whence, pursuing the path on our left, we enter the southern extremity of Kennington-lane. We are now at that point where the river is spanned by Vauxhall-bridge, a description of which we have already given. Continuing our road along the river-bank, we pass through ancient Lambeth, the old mansions and palaces of which have either utterly disappeared, or been converted into huge warehouses, wharfs, manufactories, distilleries, and other places of business. The original *High-street,* a narrow alley, the wooden tenements on the north side of which overlook the Thames, is a curious specimen of the architectural taste of our ancestors. The extreme narrowness of this thoroughfare is a sufficient indication that, at the time it was formed, walking on foot was the common mode of transit from one place to another within the limits of the town, and that carriages were as little used for the purposes of conveyance by the people generally, as balloons are at this time. Quitting this gloomy avenue, we find ourselves in front of that venerable edifice, *Lambeth Palace,* for many years the chief seat of the Primate of all England. It is supposed that upon the ground occupied by the palace the Countess Goda had a residence; but, not to dwell upon the legendary history of the place, it will suffice to say that Lambeth Palace was built in 1189 by Baldwin, Archbishop of Canterbury, and rebuilt by Archbishop Boniface (principally as it now stands) in 1262. Archbishop Chicheley, in the reign of Henry V., erected that portion of the building known as the Lollards' Tower. He was a persecutor of the followers of Wicliff, and the tower derived its name from a room appropriated to the imprisonment of the followers of that reformer, who were called Lollards. This room is 12 feet by 9, planked with elm, and some rings and staples to which the captives were chained remain. The Roman Catholics were in their turn imprisoned there, Queen Elizabeth committing several persons of rank to this place. The gate-house was built by Archbishop Morton in 1490, and the library was begun by Archbishop Bancroft in the reign of James I., and carried on by Dr. Juxon, the prelate who attended King Charles at the place of execution. Archbishops Laud, Sheldon, Tenison, and other prelates, contributed munificently towards the library; and Dr. Charles Manners Sutton, the last prelate but one, at his own expense, caused a catalogue of the valuable manuscripts to be printed, and partially opened the archiepiscopal library to the public. The long gallery was erected by Cardinal Pole. It is 90 feet long by 16 broad, and its walls are covered with portraits chiefly of primates. In the great dining-room, which is about 38 by 19, there are portraits of all the archbishops consecutively from Laud to Cornwallis. The great hall, which was destroyed during the civil wars, was rebuilt by Juxon at an outlay of £10,500. It is 93 feet long by 38, with a Gothic roof constructed of timber. The guard-chamber, 56 feet by 27½, which is supposed to have been built at the commencement of the fifteenth century, is roofed like the hall. The chapel, which was raised by Boniface, Archbishop of Canterbury from 1244 to 1270, and in which, ever since its foundation, all the primates have been consecrated, is 72 feet by 25, and in height 30 feet. A handsome screen divides it into two compartments, an inner and outer chapel. Archbishop Parker, who died in 1575, is buried under the communion table. Some modern additions in the Gothic style, called the *New Buildings*, were made to the palace a few years back by Archbishop Howley, after the designs of Mr. Edward Blore the architect. The park and gardens attached to Lambeth Palace are laid out with great taste, and comprehend eighteen acres, rather less than a fourth of which is covered by the kitchen garden. Description can but imperfectly convey an impressal of this feudal-episcopal relic of early ages; the artist, perhaps, may succeed in rendering the delineation more vivid, but to be properly appreciated its ancient walls, heretofore the inflexible gaolers of the early Reformers, should be visited.

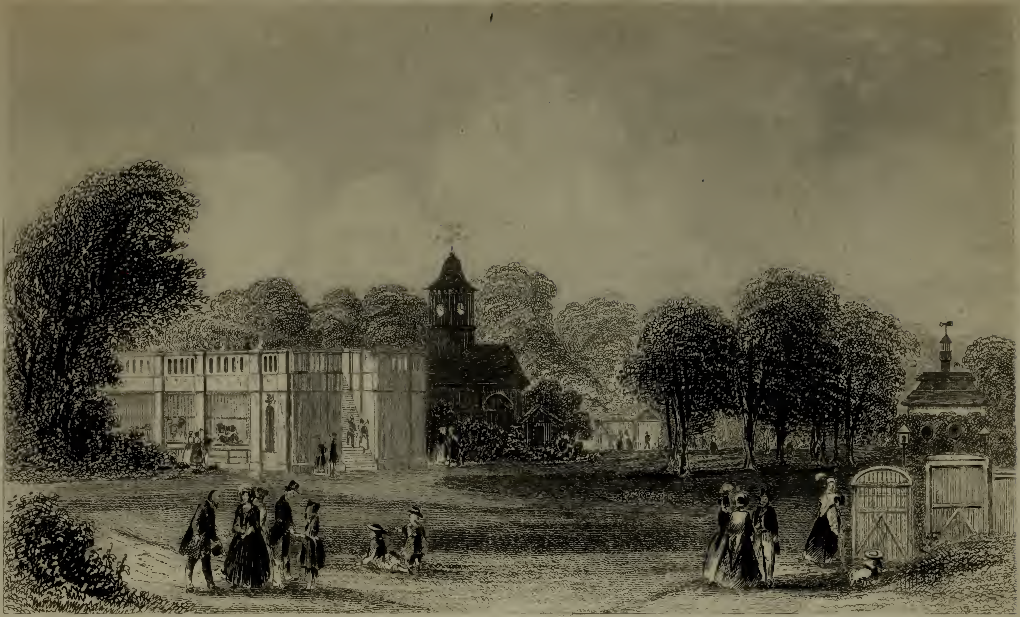
Before quitting this venerable edifice, it will not be unprofitable, briefly to notice some of the leading points in its individual history.

In 1345, John de Montford, Duke of Brittany, did homage to King Henry III. in Lambeth Palace. When Wat Tyler and his rabble outraged all propriety in 1381, and made the levelling of all distinctions, and the fusion of all property, the bases of his reform, a portion of his gang beheaded Archbishop Sudbury, then lord high chancellor, plundered the palace, and with the barbarous instincts of licentious mobs, burnt most of the goods, books, registers, and remembrances of chancery. During the civil wars between Charles I. and the Puritans, the palace was again the obnoxious point of attack to the disaffected. Laud, the primate, had become unpopular in consequence of having advised the King to dissolve parliament. In May, 1641, a paper, the authorship of which was attributed to John Lilburne, was affixed to the Old Change, recommending the apprentices to rise and attack the episcopal residence. On the 11th of May, five hundred men besieged the palace, but the prelate, who had received prior information of their mischievous purpose, fortified the old keep, and the rioters, afrer an investment of two hours, signalized themselves by no exploits more illustrious than the demolition of a few windows. Several of the ringleaders were captured, and one of them was executed for high treason. Lambeth palace did not long remain impregnable to the assaults of democracy, for in 1642 the House of Commons ordered that the archiepiscopal rents should be received by a committee of their own members, and appropriated to the service of the commonwealth. Towards the close of that year it was converted into a prison for royalists, Dr. Anthony Leighton being appointed the keeper, an unfortunate fanatic who had been cruelly treated by the Star Chamber, having had his ears cut off, and both his nostrils slit for writing a book called *Zion's Plea; or, An Appeal to the Parliament.* If the like punishment were now inflicted upon the writer of every trashy, inflammatory, and unsaleable pamphlet against constituted authorities, what a crowd of ungainly physiognomies would be displayed by our scribblers of milk-and-water treason. After the death of Charles I. Lambeth House, as it was frequently called, was purchased by Colonel Scott, one of the regicides, who was executed at Charing-cross in 1660, and Matthew Hardy. They pulled down the great hall, converted the chapel into a dancing-room, and sold the furniture and the movables, except the wood and coals, which were reserved for the use of the soldiers. Among the prisoners confined here during the civil wars were the Earls of Chesterfield and Derby, and Sir Thomas Armstrong, who was afterwards put to death as an adherent of the Duke of Monmouth. The library was preserved by an ingenious device of the learned Seldon, who interested himself with the ruling powers to have the books placed in Trinity College, Cambridge, on the assertion that the college had a reversionary right to them on the abolition of episcopal jurisdiction. In the time of Archbishop Sheldon the books were restored to Lambeth Palace.

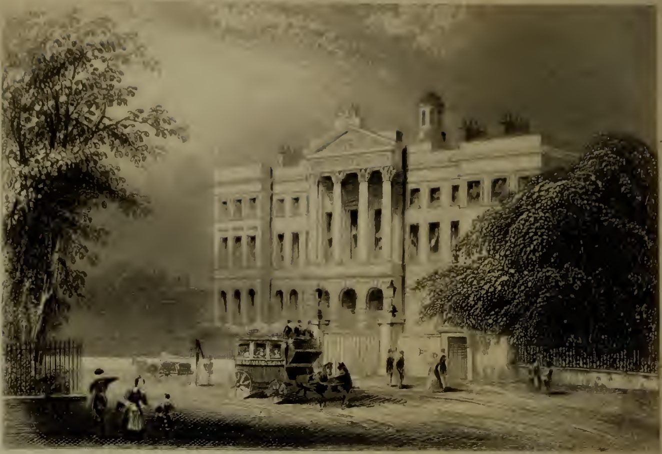
Mr. Cunningham states a curious fact in relation to Archbishop Tillotson, not generally known. "Tillotson," he says, "was the first prelate who wore a wig, which was then not unlike the natural hair, and worn without powder."



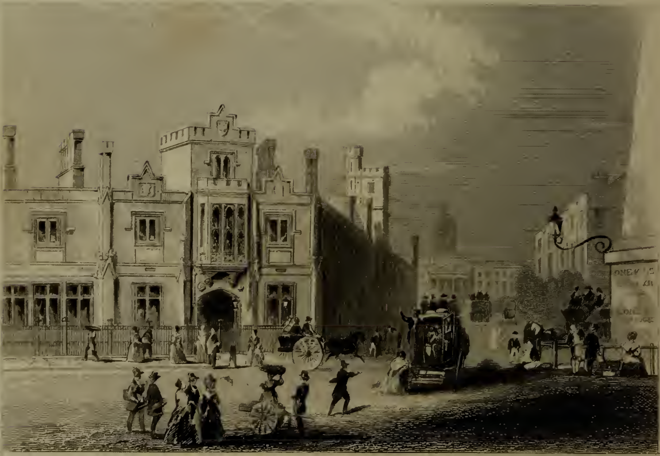
ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS REGENTS PARK



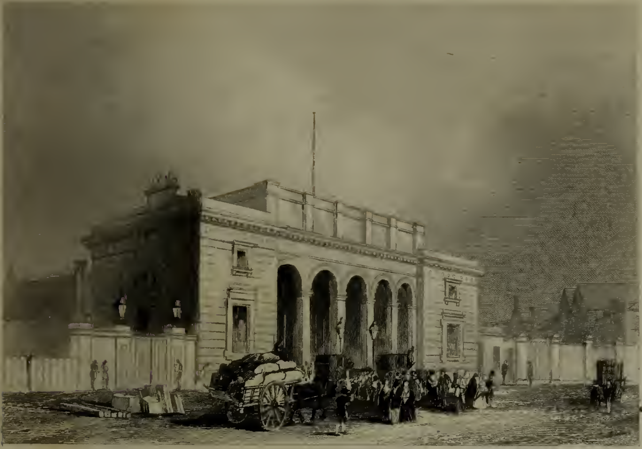
ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS REGENT'S PARK



LICENSED VICTUALLERS SCHOOL

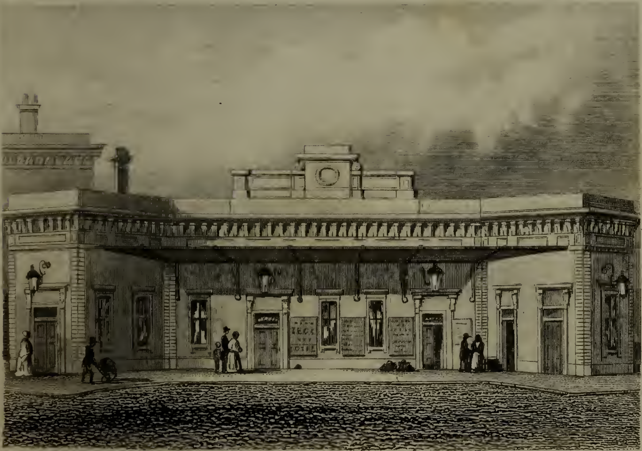


SCHOOL FOR THE INDIGENT BLIND



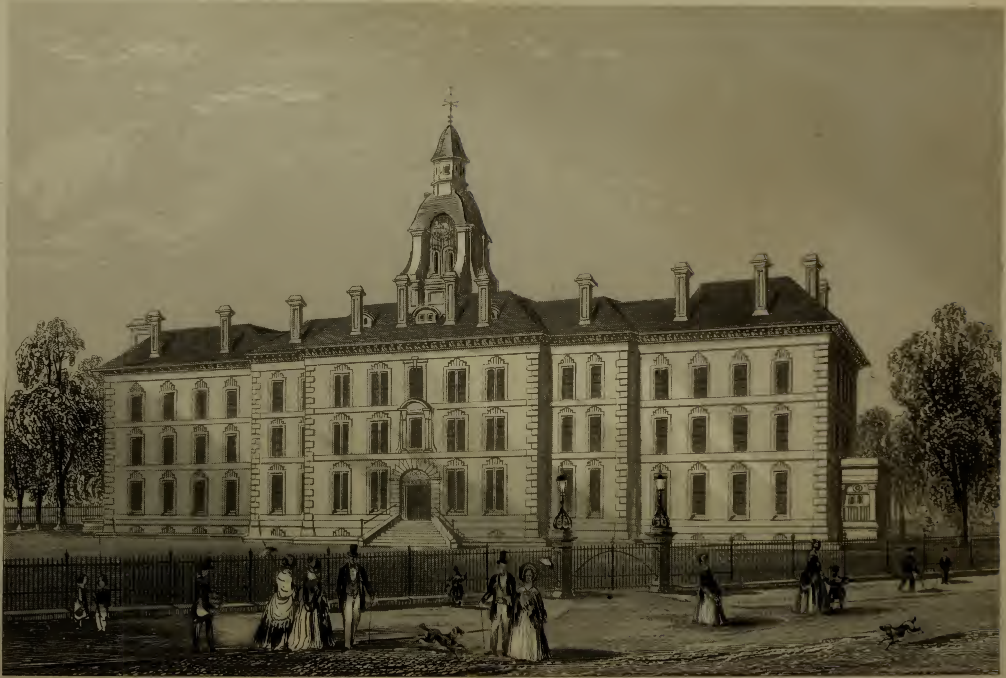
SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY STATION,

Nine Elms.



BRIGHTON RAILWAY STATION,

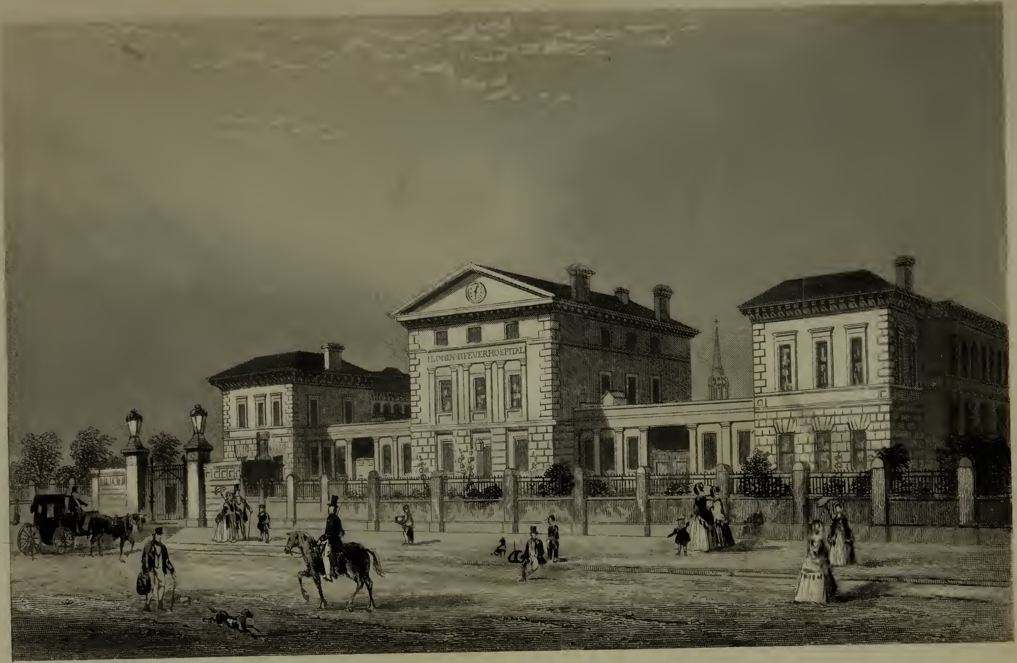
London Bridge



THE NEW CONSUMPTION HOSPITAL

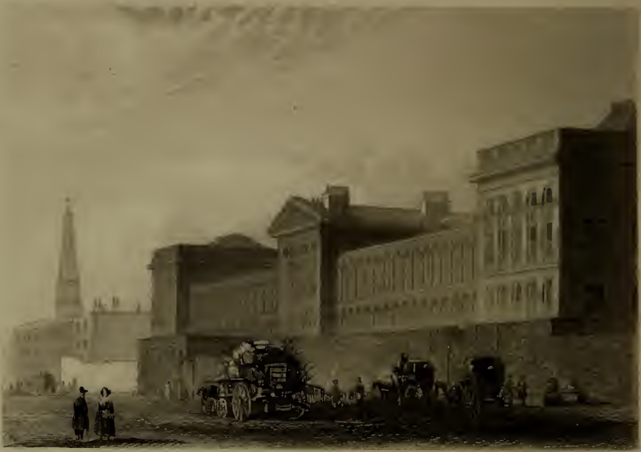
NOW BUILDING NEAR

VICTORIA PARK

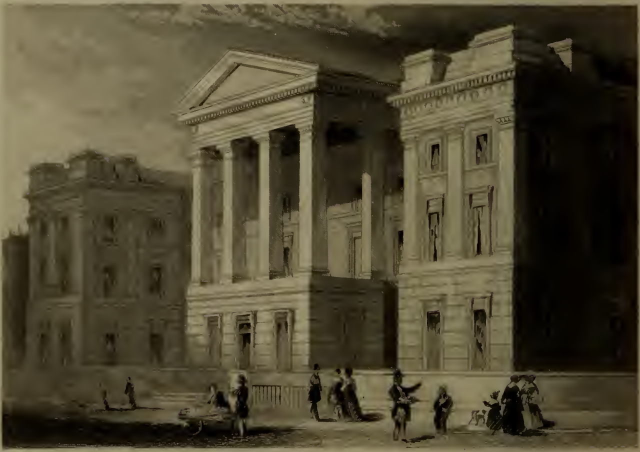

LONDON FEVER HOSPITAL

THE NEW LONDON FEVER HOSPITAL.

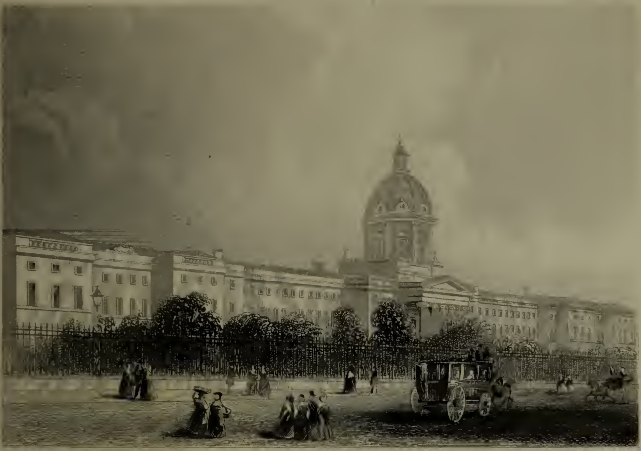
LIVERPOOL ROAD



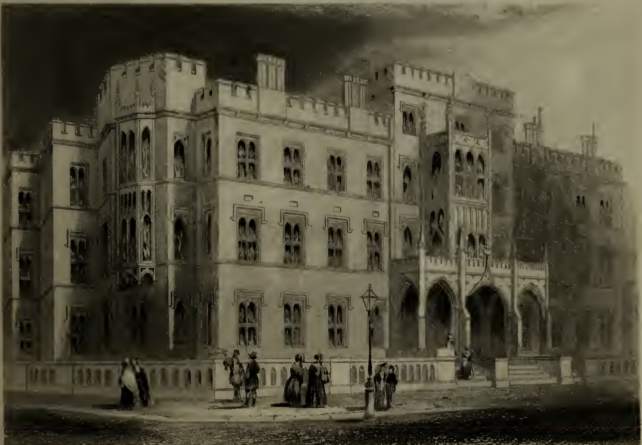
ST LUKES HOSPITAL



ST GEORGE'S HOSPITAL



BETHLEM HOSPITAL



WESTMINSTER HOSPITAL

CHAPTER VIII.

THE THAMES—*continued.*

BISHOPS' WALK—THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT, OLD AND NEW—CHINESE JUNK—SOUTHWARK BRIDGE—OLD LONDON BRIDGE, ITS HISTORY AND TRADITIONS—NEW LONDON BRIDGE—CUSTOM HOUSE—TOWER OF LONDON, ETC.

OPPOSITE to *Bishops' Walk,* an avenue well shaded with trees, between Lambeth Palace and the Thames, the Westminster bank of the river is rendered eminently conspicuous as the seat of that elaborately-enriched pile of building known as

THE NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT,

and sometimes affectedly called the *New Palace of Westminster.* Beyond the fact that the new Parliament-house stands upon the site, or part of the site of Edward the Confessor's old palace, an edifice raised long before our legislative councils assumed their present form, no reason can be produced for calling the senate-house a palace, for assigning to it a name which is not indicative of the purposes to which it is appropriated. To elevate it to the rank of a palace can impart no additional lustre to this national edifice; the tendency is, on the contrary, to detract from its merit; for as regards architectural grace and convenience of construction, it is incomparably superior to several of the structures, which, save for their being the residences of royalty, would but imperfectly convey the ideas of magnificence and taste implied by their titular distinctions.

The Houses of Lords and Commons which were immediately antecedent to the brilliant creation of Mr. Barry, demand a brief notice; the shadow of an outline, so to speak; for to write the history of parliament would be to describe the most prominent events in the history of

England; and first, to notice the component parts of the legislature.

The legislature comprehends three estates—the Sovereign, the Lords, and the Commons. The House of Lords is composed of peers of the realm, spiritual and temporal; the former comprising the two archbishops of Canterbury and York, and the bishops, their titles being only elective and not hereditary, and conferring no distinction on their consorts; the latter including the peers of Great Britain in their several grades of dignity, as dukes, marquises, earls, viscounts, and barons. The titles of the English peers are hereditary; the Scotch and Irish representative lords are elective. The House of Commons numbers 658 representatives who sit for counties, cities, towns, and boroughs. The English members amount to 471; the Welsh to 29; the Scotch to 53; and the Irish to 105.

The old *House of Lords*, the foundations of which formed part of the ancient palace of Westminster, was constructed out of the old Court of Requests, in which the masters of the court received the petitions of the subjects to the King. It was an oblong room, rather smaller than that in which the Commons held their deliberations, and its walls were hung with some landscape tapestry representing the destruction of the Spanish Armada, which was presented by the States of Holland to Queen Elizabeth; portraits of the heroes before whose prowess the "invincible" armament found itself lamentably vulnerable, formed a matchless border round the room. This beautiful tapestry was consumed in the fatal fire of 1834. The throne, which was made for George IV., was an arm chair, elegantly carved and gilt, ornamented with crimson velvet and silver embroidery. The royal entrance to the House of Lords was commenced in 1822 from the designs of Sir John Soane, and completed in 1824. Sir John added a noble staircase and magnificent gallery 100 feet long and 27 wide. The gallery was divided into three parts by columns, in imitation of veined marble. Beneath the vaults of the House of Lords Guy Fawkes and his associates deposited, in 1604, thirty-six barrels of gunpowder, by the explosion of which they intended to make a terrific clearance of king, lords, and commons; in fact to accomplish a more complete *dissolution of parliament* than was ever before effected. How the Gunpowder Plot exploded, (*not* in the way which the conspirators desired,) and how Guy Fawkes and his associates were incapacitated from projecting further mischief, are matters of history, not merely written in books, but orally recorded every fifth of November, when the memory of Guy is perpetuated in a manner most agreeable to the firework-makers, to whom, however destitute of philanthropy towards others, he has proved a most invaluable benefactor. He appropriated thirty-six barrels of gunpowder to the destruction of the government; many thousands of casks of gunpowder have been expended on the preservation of his fame.

The Painted Chamber, an apartment between the House of Lords and House of Commons we have already noticed in our description of Westminster.

St. Stephen's Chapel, the original *House of Commons*, was first founded by King Stephen, in honour of the martyr, St. Stephen, and was rebuilt by Edward III. in 1347, who made it a collegiate church, under the government of a dean and twelve secular priests. It was constructed in the most elaborate style of Gothic architecture. "The walls were covered with paintings in oil, of great richness and beauty; the windows were gorgeously illuminated; and all the internal fittings and ornaments —the jewels, the hangings of the altar, and the vestments of the priests, corresponded in beauty and costliness with its architectural splendour."*

This religious house was not dissolved in the lifetime of Henry VIII., but upon the accession of Edward VI. it was seized by the crown. By the last named King it was given to be used as a permanent chamber by the

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* *Memorials of London.*

Commons, which body had had before that time no settled place of assembling. The old House of Commons was formed within the chapel, chiefly by a floor raised above the pavement, and an inner roof considerably below the ancient one. This fictitious ceiling concealed its richly-decorated roof, and its oil-paintings were screened by an oaken wainscot. In the year 1800, on the union with Ireland, to provide accommodation for the additional members, the house was enlarged, by taking down the entire side walls, except the buttresses, which sustained the ancient roof, and erecting others beyond, by which more seats were gained. Upon the removal of the panelling, some of the old paintings and decorations of St. Stephen's Chapel were discovered. Galleries were first erected in the House of Commons in the reign of Queen Anne, by Sir Christopher Wren.

On the 16th of October, 1834, both houses of Parliament, over which the ravages of time had passed harmlessly, which had escaped unscathed from the explosive levelling of Guy Fawkes, and from the dilapidating mania of the Roundheads, were destroyed by fire, an element which has been more than anything else the herald and precursor of metropolitan improvements. Talk of sanitary commissions, indeed! how little have they effected to promote the health and comfort of society, compared with the terrific agency of fire! Fire it was that swept away the old wooden penthouse habitations of London in the Stuart days, and with these ill-ventilated, crowded, and noisome dwellings, the lurking seeds of pestilence vanished. For the widening of the streets, the construction of houses of brick, and other domiciliatory advantages we are indebted to fire, which, like a pioneer, levelled the obstacles to improvement. Fire, by removing prescriptive nuisances, suggests a better employment of the ground which they cumbered; and we have no doubt that neighbourhoods which now, under the authority of tardy acts of parliament, are assuming a more respectable character, and attractive appearance, would have long since altered their old aspect, had they been subjected to the purifying influences and energetic action of fire. And our tastes must not be supposed to incline to arson, when we observe, that in spite of the disposition now on the alert, to widen our streets and mend our ways, nothing but fire will eventually remove many a hideous obstruction and unseemly alley, excrescences which "vested interests" allow to deform some of our finest thoroughfares, exhibiting all the imperfections, and none of the architectural merits of the early builders. The conflagration so fatal to the houses of the legislature originated in the library of the House of Lords towards seven o'clock in the evening of the day above named. A large quantity of wooden tallies, anciently used in the office of the Chancellor of the Exchequer were directed to be burnt, but the parties charged with the task of ignition, instead of accomplishing it in the open air, placed the tallies in a large stove, in one of the offices of the House of Lords. The flues became overheated, and the wood work of the library caught fire. The flames soon extended to such a degree as to defy all attempts to subdue their progress. Enveloped in vast sheets of fire, the houses of parliament soon became a blackened and smoking ruin, but by the exertions of the firemen, the noble hall of Rufus, Westminster Abbey, was saved from a like fate, sustaining no more serious damage than some trivial injury to the upper wall immediately facing the entrance. The fire consumed many valuable records, together with the libraries of both houses. The public loss was estimated at £200,000, but many of the treasures reduced to dust no money of course could replace, no equivalent supply. Thus in one memorable night was an edifice, venerable for its historic associations, the scene of national revolutions, and where "forgotten generations" seemed to "live again," prostrated to the ground. The manufactory of our laws had vanished. That which in the morning appeared endowed with the vitality of centuries, had ceased to exist at night, swept away like an ephemeral plant before the rage of the tempest. "Passing away," is a meet epitaph for the mightiest works of man.

On the morning subsequent to the calamity King William IV. came direct from Windsor to the scene of the fire, amid the desolation of which he spent some time. His majesty volunteered to surrender either of his palaces for the use of Parliament until a suitable building could be raised, but the situation of neither of them being considered eligible, it was determined to act on a plan suggested by Sir R. Smirke, for the temporary restoration of the chambers, the estimate being about £30,000. In pursuance of this recommendation the former House of Lords was metamorphosed into a House of Commons, and the Painted Chamber was fitted up for the reception of the peers.

The government having resolved to erect, upon a scale of appropriate grandeur, an edifice for the legislative councils of the nation, it was thought that by throwing open this brilliant undertaking to competition, the object in view would be best attained. Accordingly the committee to whom the matter was entrusted, invited architects to submit their designs. Ninety-seven designs and estimates were sent in; of these the one furnished by Mr. Charles Barry was unanimously adopted by the commissioners, who awarded premiums to three other designs. The new senate-house commenced in 1836 is still (1851) in progress, and is unquestionably the most magnificent edifice which has been constructed in our own day. It is raised on the ancient site of the former houses of parliament, and covers eight acres of ground. A magnesian limestone from Yorkshire is used for the external masonry, and the river frontage is composed of Aberdeen granite. The structure has four fronts, of which that towards the east, or the river terrace is the most elaborate, and the one from which the most extensive prospect is gained. It presents a superb range of enriched Gothic, about 900 feet in length, and is divided into five principal compartments. Official abodes for the Speaker of the House of Commons, and for the Usher of the Black Rod, and librarian of the House of Lords are provided in the towers at the north and south end of the river façade; and the committee-rooms of both houses are placed on the second floor. The north flank of the structure is appropriated to the official residences of the officers of the House of Commons; and the south contains the robing and ante-rooms for the use of the Queen when she opens, prorogues, or dissolves Parliament. The statues and armorial bearings of the English monarchs antecedent to the Conquest adorn these fronts externally. The west or land front will, when completed, present an appearance no less imposing than that which crowns the river bank.

The three principal towers are the *Royal,* or *Victoria Tower,* the central tower, and the clock tower. The Victoria tower, (for that is its *popular* name), which is at the south-west angle, and terminates the range towards Abingdon-street, contains the royal entrance. It is 75 feet square, and is destined to attain the stupendous altitude of 340 feet. The archway under this tower is the royal entrance. It is 60 feet in height, and leads to the Norman porch, embellished with frescoes illustrating the annals of England under the Norman dynasty. On the right hand is the royal robing-room, and beyond this is a noble apartment 110 feet long, 45 wide, and 45 high, called the Royal, or Victoria Gallery, enriched with historical fresco paintings, stained glass, and a floridly-ornamented ceiling. From the Prince's Chamber, a room fitted up with similar splendour, access is gained to the *House of Lords,* which is 97 feet long, 45 broad, and 45 high, "presenting a *coup-d'œil* of the utmost magnificence, no expense having been spared to make it one of the richest chambers in the world. The spectator is hardly aware of the lavish richness of its fittings, from the masterly way in which all are harmoniously blended, each detail, however beautiful and intricate in itself, bearing only its due part in the general effect."* The house is lighted by six Gothic windows of stained glass, on either side, having painted on them effigies of the kings and queens of England, under canopies of elaborate design. Three arches at each end of the house, corresponding in size and shape to the windows, contain frescoes illustrative of some of the chief events in British history. The ceiling is flat, and divided by massive, richly-gilded tie-beams into compartments, and those again are subdivided into smaller ones, each containing some heraldic symbol or device, the exquisite carving and harmonious colouring of which really produce a most gorgeous effect. At the southern extremity is the throne, resplendent with gold and colours, and its surface most profusely adorned. It is divided into three compartments; the central being the loftiest, contains the state chair for Her Majesty; that on the right hand for the Prince of Wales; and the one on the left contains the Prince Consort's seat. Not to dwell longer on the decorations of this glittering chamber of peers, the details of which might worthily fill a volume, we must close our notice of it by stating that it was opened for the first time on April 15th, 1847.

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* Cunningham.

The clock tower, which is near Westminster Bridge, is 40 feet square, and its belfry spire is to reach the height of 320 feet. Upon the authority of Mr. Cunningham, we learn that it is to contain an eight-day clock, (constructed under the direction and approval of Mr. Airy, the astronomer-royal), which will strike the hours on a bell weighing from eight to ten tons, chime the quarters upon eight bells, and shew the time upon four dials about 30 feet in diameter. The central tower contains the grand central octagon hall, and is 60 feet in diameter, and 300 feet to the top of the lantern surmounting it. The central hall is lavishly ornamented, as is St. Stephen's hall, a spacious apartment 90 feet long by 30 wide, and about 56 feet in height, raised upon the spot anciently occupied by St. Stephen's Chapel.

The new *House of Commons* is 62 feet in length, 45 in width, and the same in height. Its decorations are of a less gorgeous character than those of its aristocratic neighbour. The ceiling exhibits richer work than any other part of the chamber, which contains windows of stained glass, and the walls of which are panelled with oak, beautifully carved.

Both houses of parliament are lighted with gas on Mr. Faraday's principle. The air that is intended to feed the flame is made to pass through an inner tube, and after supplying the flame with oxygen, the vitiated air is removed through an outer tube, without mingling in any degree with the air of the apartment.

Entrance may be gained to either house by a peer or a member's order, which will procure the holder a place in the strangers' gallery, to hear the debates. Orders to inspect the House of Lords when the peers are not sitting, may also be easily obtained from the Lord High Chamberlain's Office, but these are only available on Wednesdays, between the hours of 11 and 4.

Leaving the Houses of Parliament we continue our voyage along the Thames, and passing through Westminster Bridge, noticed in our survey of Westminster, we reach that part of the river where the animation and bustle of the metropolis begin to be evident. Here coal-barges and other craft appear, especially the penny and twopenny steam-boats, which are constantly plying between the bridges from various piers on the river bank. On the south side the Golden Lion Brewery, and coal, slate, timber, and other wharfs, are seen; while on the north side the gardens of Richmond-terrace, and of the mansions of the Duke of Buccleuch, Sir Robert Peel, the United Service Museum, &c., extend to the river in close and singular contiguity with coal-wharfs. We pass by Charing Cross Suspension Bridge, and its crowded steamboat pier, and proceeding by the beautiful Water Gate, almost the last perfect relic of the Augustan age of architecture, and by the Adelphi-terrace, reach Rennie's noble structure of Waterloo Bridge, which is one of the best points from which a view of the metropolis, comprehending some of its finest edifices, may be gained. It was this bridge which Canova declared to be "worth a visit from the remotest corner of the earth." The effect of the bridge is enhanced by the beautiful river front of Somerset House, one of the most elegant edifices on the banks of the Thames. What stream is crowned with three such structures of surpassing magnificence, as the Thames front of Somerset House, the Houses of Parliament, and Greenwich Hospital? Any one of these fabrics would confer fame upon the locality which it adorned. Two minutes bring us to the Temple steam-boat pier, where the *Chinese Junk*, a huge specimen of the maritime architecture of the Celestial Empire, provided with a mandarin and a crew, and furnished with curiosities from the remote Cathay, is moored. The Temple Gardens, with their bright green sward, next gratify the eye, appearing like an oasis amid the desert of metropolitan brick, and yet some few centuries back Fleet-street and the Strand presented gardens equally fair and of greater length along their entire line. We approach Blackfriars' Bridge, and now, on either side of the river, nothing more attractive than wharfs, quays, and warehouses appear.

Immediately beyond Queenhithe is that beautiful and massive structure,

SOUTHWARK BRIDGE,

which has not, like the bridges under which we have previously sailed, been noticed. This bridge, which is of iron, extends from the bottom of Queen-street, Cheapside, to Bankside, Southwark, and thence by a road upon arches, stretches to Union-street, from which the Kent and Surrey Roads are reached. Mr. Rennie was the architect employed, and the bridge was commenced in September, 1814, and opened in March, 1819, the cost of its construction amounting to £800,000. It consists of three arches of cast-iron upon piers and abutments of stone; the span of the centre one is 240 feet; that of each of the side ones 210 feet. The weight of the iron employed in this structure is 5,508 tons. The bridge is supported by a toll on carriages and foot passengers.

We are now approaching that part of the river across which the first bridge that ever spanned the Thames was cast, and whch for centuries stood in isolated grandeur, the only land thoroughfare across the Thames. And though the ancient structure is now but a thing of memory, though its life of centuries has at length closed, and it belongs to the shadowy past, still it has been too intimately interwoven with the annals of the city to justify us, when writing a history of London, to omit all mention of its first, and, for many ages, its only bridge.

OLD LONDON BRIDGE

must, therefore, claim precedence of its successor. When the Romans possessed Britain it does not appear that any bridge spanned the river, but the earliest record which is preserved of one existing, dates so far back as the period when Sweyn, the father of Canute, invaded these shores. Subsequently to that era there is frequent mention made of a bridge between London and Southwark. An ancient civic tradition relates that the bridge was erected by Mary Overy, the daughter of the ferryman, who plied at the passage in the East Saxon times: and the foundress of the church of St. Mary Overy, now St. Saviour's Southwark. The bridge was originally formed solely of wood, and may be conjectured to have been a rude structure for pedestrians only. In 1091 it was destroyed by a heavy flood, 600 houses being simultaneously blown down. William Rufus promised to replace it at his own expense, without laying any impost on the citizens, who had been severely tried by previous casualities of flood and fire. The performance of the monarch, however, did not correspond with his promises; for failing to raise a supply from the clergy for that object, he saddled the citizens with a tax to defray the cost of the contemplated fabric. The new bridge erected greatly excelled its predecessor, and forty years afterwards was nearly consumed by fire. It was repaired, but so ineffectively, that in 1163 it was found absolutely necessary to remove it. The old chronicler, Stowe, says, that in the above year "it was not only repaired, but *new made* of timber as afore, by Peter of Colechurch, priest and chaplain." Only a few years elapsed before this link between London and Southwark was also found to be dangerous. The citizens then resolved to build a substantial structure, which might bid defiance to time and elements, and in pursuance of this determination, the aforesaid Peter of Colechurch, the most famous architect of his age, was employed to raise a stone bridge, the foundations of which were laid in 1176, a short distance to the west of the old bridge, which was allowed to remain until the new one was completed. A tax was laid upon wool by the king in aid of the undertaking, to which fact may be traced the origin of the popular saying, that "London Bridge was built on woolpacks." Twenty-nine years was Peter engaged upon this stupendous work. He died four years before it was finished; his remains were interred in the middle pier in the crypt of a chapel dedicated to St. Thomas. Several distinguished persons contributed liberally towards the erection of the new bridge, which was completed in 1209. Gates were erected at each end in the reign of King John; a row of wooden houses was erected on either side of it. In 1212 a fearful conflagration broke out on the Southwark side of the bridge, the houses on which generally ignited, and in the dreadful confusion consequent thereon, it is said that 3,000 persons were drowned or burnt to death. In the reign of Edward I. the bridge underwent a thorough repair, and notwithstanding the various casualties and alterations to which it was subjected, lasted till 1831. Old London Bridge occupies a prominent place in the romantic annals of England. Splendid tournaments, and regal processions, rendered it a scene of gorgeous splendour in the earlier ages. After the glorious battle of Agincourt the citizens went in procession to meet Henry V., and conducted their warrior-monarch in triumph to London, when a splendid pageant was exhibited on London Bridge. Henry VI., after his return from his coronation at Paris, was entertained with a similar reception on the same spot. London Bridge, during the wars of York and Lancaster, and in the reign of Queen Mary, was frequently the field of battle between the adherents of rival claimants to the throne, and from time to time human heads fixed upon poles on the Southwark side, filled the passenger with awe. The heads of Sir William Wallace, the Scottish hero; Lord Saye; Sir Thomas More; Fisher, Bishop of Rochester; and other eminent but unfortunate individuals, were here exposed. Hentzen, a German, who travelled in England in the reign of Elizabeth, counted no less than thirty of those hideous skulls upon it at one time. The top of the drum on which they were exposed on the Southwark side, is represented as having resembled a butcher's shambles. There was a cooking apparatus on it, in which heads and quarters of the unhappy wretches were boiled in pitch, that they might be the longer preserved to amuse the barbarous taste which then unhappily prevailed. In the bridge were three openings on each side, with bulustrades, to give passengers a sight of the water and shipping. In one part had been a drawbridge, useful either by way of defence, or for the admission of ships into the upper part of the river. This was protected by a strong tower. It served to repel Falconbridge, the bastard, in his general assault in 1471. Edward Osborn, who lived in the time of Queen Elizabeth, was apprentice to Sir William Hewett, a rich cloth-worker, and afterwards Lord Mayor of London, who dwelt on the bridge. Sir William had an only daughter, an infant; and as Osborn was at his work, he saw the child fall from the arms of a servant, who was standing at the window, into the Thames. He instantly leaped into the stream, and rescued the little girl from a watery grave. As she grew up to womanhood, she bestowed her love upon the apprentice, whose wife she afterwards became, though the Earl of Shrewsbury was a suitor for her hand. Osborn, himself, became Lord Mayor of London, and was founder of the present ducal family of Leeds.

NEW LONDON BRIDGE.

About the year 1820, the dilapidated and insecure state of the bridge made the corporation resolve forthwith to build a more commodious one. The act for the erection of the new structure, and the approaches thereto, received the royal assent on the 4th of July, 1823, and the site of the fabric was fixed thirty-four yards west of the old one, which it was arranged should remain open till its successor was completed. A plan furnished by the late Sir John Rennie was adopted; the first pile of the coffer dam for laying the foundation of the first pier was driven on the Southwark side, on March 15th, 1824; and the first stone was laid on the 15th of June, 1825, by the Lord Mayor (Alderman Garratt), the Duke of York, and other distinguished persons being present. In 1831 the new bridge was finished, and on the 1st of August was opened to the public by his majesty William IV.; accompanied by Queen Adelaide, the Princess Victoria (her present Majesty), the Duchess of Kent, the Duke and Duchess of Cumberland, the Duke of Sussex, the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, the Duke of Wellington, the ministers, the foreign ambassadors, and others of high rank. A splendid *dejeuner* was given on the occasion in a pavilion erected on the bridge, when the Lord Mayor presented to the King a golden cup, on the part of the corporation of the City of London. His majesty briefly referred to the completion of the great work which they had assembled to inaugurate, and proposed "The Trade and Commerce of the City of London." New London Bridge is composed of five semi-elliptical arches. The central one is 10 feet wider than the two on either side, and 20 feet wider than the two land arches, the respective spans being 150, 140, and 130 feet. The width of the centre-most pier is 24 feet, and the others 22 feet. The abutments of the base are 73 feet. The roadway on both sides of the river is raised on arches so as to form a level approach.

Below London Bridge the Thames gradually widens, and now we find it occupied with shipping of greater tonnage and of more important character than the craft which we have left behind. Immediately below the bridge is the steam-boat wharf, whence Gravesend and other steamers start, and in the summer-time, when Londoners are on the *qui vive* to fly to the cool shade of watering-places, and to imbibe sea-water, the wharf is a continual scene of pleasurable excitement. Passing by Billingsgate, which will, probably, in the present year (1851), offer a more appropriate frontage to the river than that by which it has hitherto been un-distinguished, we reach an adjoining building, certainly of more architectural pretensions than the *old* fishmarket, which has so long been its western flank—we mean the *Custom-house.* So far back as the reign of Elizabeth, a building for carrying on the business of the customs was erected in Lower Thames-street. It was consumed by the fire of 1666, and two years later a more magnificent and commodious edifice was raised by Charles II., which involved an expenditure of £10,000. In 1718 this was also consumed by fire, and a third Custom-house was raised. This was also destroyed by the same element which had levelled the first and second custom-houses, an accidental conflagration reducing it to ashes in 1814. The first stone of a new Custom-house had previously been laid in 1813, because the former building, though so extensive, was still insufficient. A new Custom-house arose, but the fatality which appeared to hover over the palace of our inland revenue, still haunted it, although in another form. In 1825 a portion of the Long-room fell in, and it was then discovered that the foundations of the edifice had been insecurely laid. The whole of the centre was then taken down, and re-erected under the superintendence of Mr. Smirke. The south, or river front of the new Custom-house, measuring 488 feet in length, with its returns to the east and west (each 107 feet deep), are faced with Portland stone. The central compartment, comprising the exterior of the Long-room only, is quite plain, with the exception of the attic, which is ornamented with alto-relievos. There is a spacious and well-gravelled quay in front, which the public are allowed to use as a promenade. The two chief entrances to the Custom-house are in Lower Thames-street. They lead to the grand stair-case, which by a double flight of steps conduct to the lobbies of each extremity of the Long-room. This room is 190 feet in length, and 66 in width; it is partitioned into three quadrangular compartments by piers, surmounted by three domes, through which the rooms are ventilated. Besides the Long-room there are more than a hundred distinct offices in which the business of the customs is transacted. In the reign of Elizabeth the revenues annually derivable from customs were estimated at £30,000; now they reach nearly as many millions of pounds. Sure we are that we need not explain either to our home or foreign readers, the uses and properties of a Custom-house. Every one that has come under its cognizance, whether from a port of twelve hours' distance or an Antipodean settlement; whether his luggage has been compressed within the diameter of a pocket-handkerchief or a carpet-bag; or been dilated into an endless number of packages, must have practically experienced the polite attention and searching enquiries of the Custom-house officials, resolute to exclude contraband *eau de Cologne* and cigars, and in their anxiety to protect Her Majesty's revenue, often rendering worthless the property of Her Majesty's subjects, property upon which the imputation of contraband could never rest. Anxious to manifest their zeal, if they fail in discovering goods which are liable to the payment of duty, they consider at least that they are not exempt from one duty, that of creating as much trouble and confusion as possible, and thus make unnecessary obtrusion pass muster for useful labour. The common-place phrases of a "Jack-in-office," "man drest in a little brief authority," bear great affinity to the character of many Custom-house officials.

THE TOWER OF LONDON.

A very ancient tradition states that the original Tower of London was built by Julius Cæsar, and to this legend Gray refers when he writes—

> "The Towers of Julius, London's lasting shame,
> By many a foul, and midnight murder fed."

There is, however, no evidence to shew that the Tower of London is as old as Dover Castle is familiarly supposed to be, but it is not improbable that the situation of the place might have suggested the site as eligible for the erection of a Roman fort. There is romance in the very name of the Tower of London—romance more startling than the most vivid colouring of fiction could supply. What striking events have been witnessed by the walls of this old fortress, events which have influenced the destinies of Britain. In this citadel how many a legalized murder and midnight assassination have taken place; here Ambition has for ever silenced the obstacles to its advancement. Here kings have been crowned, and fallen beneath the stroke of the murderer; here innocence has been tortured, and doomed to an untimely death, and here, too, great criminals have, with their lives, made an inadequate expiation of their guilt. The chronicles of the Tower are not deficient in fearful and momentous interest to those of the Inquisition, and its secret annals would, perhaps, form a more voluminous narrative than its known history.

A sketch of the principal buildings of which it is composed, and a few words of some of the leading events by which it has been distinguished, and the interest of which cannot suffer from time, are all which, in our diminishing space, we can devote to this venerable citadel.

The most ancient part of the fortress is the *White*

Tower, which was erected in the year 1078 for William the Conqueror, by Gundulph, Bishop of Rochester, no less famous as an architect than as an ecclesiastic, and also the builder of Rochester Castle, which even, ruin as it now is, is the grandest object on the banks of the Medway. This structure, which at first stood alone, was originally called Cæsar's Tower. Fitzstephen, writing in 1180, styles it Arx Palatina, and gravely affirms, that the mortar was tempered with the blood of beasts. The commander of the tower had the title of Palatine conferred on him, a dignity which in early times it was common to grant to great men who were entrusted with the charge of places of importance. From a very remote period it has borne its present name, in reference to a custom which prevailed of whitening its external walls. It is a large square irregular building, standing almost in the centre of the inner ward. The summit of the walls is embattled, and at each angle is an elevated turret rising considerably above the roof. That in the north-east angle is the highest and largest, and contains the great staircase of communication. This turret formerly bore the name of the Observatory, having been used for taking astronomical surveys by Flamstead, the first astronomer-royal. It is composed of three lofty stories, beneath which are vaults, in which it is related Sir Walter Raleigh was confined. On the first floor is a large apartment, originally a chapel dedicated to St. John, for the use of the royal family, when the court was held in the Tower. It is now, and has been for the last two centuries, a Record office. Other chambers in the White Tower contain numerous stands of arms, and are used as naval and military armouries.

The Tower was greatly injured by a hurricane in 1092; it was repaired by William II. and his successor. By Rufus another castellated building was added on the south side, between it and the Thames, which was afterwards called St. Thomas's Tower. Beneath that was Traitors' Gate, through which state prisoners were brought from the river. In the south-east angle of the enclosure the royal apartments were situate, for the Tower was a regal palace for nearly five hundred years. It was first enclosed by William Longchamp, Bishop of Ely, and Chancellor and Governor of England in the reign of Richard I. To guard against the designs of John, brother to the absent King, was the alleged motive of this fortification. This prelate surrounded the Tower with embattled walls, and encompassed it with a vast moat, into which, in after times, the water from the Thames was introduced. Other works were added by different princes. The Tower was again circumvallated with a mud wall by Henry III. This was placed at some distance from the ditch, and rendered the removal of a part of the city wall necessary; the citizens resenting this, pulled down the bulwark of mud, and were mulcted by the King for their insubordination, in a fine of a thousand marks.

The *Lions' Tower* was erected by Edward IV. It was originally named the Bulwark, but received its former name from being appropriated to the purposes of the royal menagerie. For centuries the Tower was the only menagerie in London; upon the formation of the Zoological Gardens, the lions and other wild beasts were transferred to the more convenient quarters which had been provided for them in the Regent's Park. Ancient arms and armour are now deposited in the Lions' Tower. In 1663 the Tower ditch was thoroughly cleansed, the wharfing rebuilt with brick and stone, and the sluices erected for admitting and retaining the waters of the Thames. The ditch is now, however, a dry one.

The chief bulwarks, besides those we have mentioned, are the Bell Tower, the Beauchamp or Cobham Tower, the Devereux Tower, the Bowyer Tower, the Jewel Tower, the Broad Arrow Tower, the Record or Wakefield Tower, and the Bloody Tower. The alarm bell of the fortress gives its name to the *Bell Tower*, in which Fisher, Bishop of Rochester, executed for denying the supremacy of Henry VIII., and other distinguished captives, were confined. The *Beauchamp, or Cobham Tower,* is famous as the place in which many illustrious prisoners have been immured. In the reign of Henry VIII. it was known by its former name; the latter one was applied to it in consequence of some of the Cobhams, who had been implicated in Wyat's rebellion, being incarcerated there. Among its tenants were several chivalric adherents of Mary, Queen of Scots, and John Dudley, Earl of Warwick, one of those who attempted to place Lady Jane Grey on the throne of England. The walls of this ancient dungeon are covered with inscriptions from the hands of those which they once confined, inscriptions telling of the sorrows felt by writers who have long since mingled with the dust. Beauchamp Tower is now a military mess-room. The *Devereux Tower,* formerly called the Develin Tower, has also been, for centuries, used as a state prison, and owes its present appellation to its having been the prison of Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex, the unhappy lover and victim of Queen Elizabeth. The *Bowyer Tower* was anciently the residence of the master and provider of the King's bows. In the basement story, George, Duke of Clarence is said to have met his whimsical doom, being drowned in a butt of Malmsey wine.

The *Jewel Tower,* (called in the reign of Elizabeth the Martin Tower), is situate at the north-east angle of the inner ward. It is thus named from its having been long the treasure house of the regalia, previously deposited in a small building to the south of the White Tower. The lustre of its precious contents is displayed by the light of Argand lamps. The new imperial crown, which was made for the coronation of George IV., is said to be the most sumptuous diadem in Europe. It is about fifteen inches in height, and the arches which rise almost to a point are surmounted by a diamond orb of the finest brilliants, seven inches in circumference. This is surmounted by a Maltese cross of brilliants, set transparently, with three pearls at its extremities, of remarkable size and beauty. The arches are wreathed and fringed with diamonds. Four diamond crosses surround the crown, with four large diamond flowers in their intervening spaces. In the centre of the back cross, the ancient ruby is set, which was worn at Cressy and Agincourt by the Black Prince and Henry V.; while the front cross is enriched with a magnificent sapphire, of the purest azure, more than two inches long, and one broad. The ermine is surmounted with a band of large diamonds, emeralds, sapphires, and rubies, and below, there is a fillet of beautiful pearls. The cap is of dark crimson velvet. The value of this diadem is estimated at £150,000, and the outlay attendant upon it, preparatory to the coronation of George IV., reached nearly £60,000, beyond that incurred by the addition of the inestimable sapphire. It is almost needless to remark that this massive crown was not worn by Queen Victoria on the occasion of her coronation, a smaller one being made expressly for Her Majesty. Since the attempt made by Blood and his confederates to seize the crown, in the reign of Charles II., none is allowed to inspect the regalia except in the presence of a warder. The *Broad Arrow* and the *Salt Tower* chiefly owe their interest to their having been the prison-houses of the guilty, the penitent, or the oppressed. With the exception of the White Tower, the *Wakefield Tower*, or Record Office, is the most venerable part of the citadel. In a room upon the second story, Henry VI. is reported to have perished by assassination. This building is now fitted up with presses, in which the ancient records of the kingdom are kept. Adjoining the Record Office is that ominously named structure, the *Bloody Tower*, formerly called the Garden Tower, but which becoming the scene of some lamentable tragedies, won for itself its later and more fearful title. Here it is supposed that Edward V., and his brother the Duke of York, were smothered, by command of their uncle Richard, Duke of Gloucester; this, with other deeds of blood which were perpetrated here, led to its being called, towards the end of Elizabeth's reign, the Bloody Tower.

The *Tower Chapel*, dedicated to St. Peter ad Vincula, is memorable as the resting-place of many personages who have figured conspicuously in the annals of Britain. Here were buried, Fisher, Bishop of Rochester; the ill-fated wives of Henry VIII., Anne Boleyn and Catharine Howard; George, Lord Rochfort, the brother of the former princess; Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Essex; Lord Thomas Seymour, beheaded in 1549, in obedience to a warrant from his own brother, the Protector Somerset; the turbulent Duke of Somerset, who three years later suffered on the same scaffold to which he had sent his relative; John Dudley, Duke of Northumberland, the prime mover in Somerset's death, and who perished like his rival in 1153; Lord Guildford Dudley, husband of Lady Jane Grey; Sir Thomas Overbury; Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex; the Duke of Monmouth; and Lords Balmerino, Kilmarnock, and Lovat.

The *Horse Armoury* is one of the attractive features of the Tower. In 1825, an apartment, 150 feet long, was constructed for the reception and better arrangement of this fine collection. The figures are arranged chronologically; each is mounted in the full field costume of its respective era, and placed beneath an arch, in the left column of which is affixed a banner, whereon is inscribed, in letters of gold, the name, rank, and period of the personage represented below. The *Spanish or Asiatic Armoury* contains what are said to be the spoils of the Spanish Armada; the figure of Elizabeth, as reviewing the troops at Tilbury Fort; Henry the Eighth's walking staff, with three matchlock pistols in it, and a short bayonet in the centre of the barrels; and the arms of Tippoo Saib and other Indian princes, with many curious oriental trophies. The *Grand Store House*, which was destroyed by fire on the 30th of October, 1841, consisted of three stories; the lowest called the train of artillery; the second the small arms armoury; and the third the tent-room. In the first room were deposited field pieces intended for actual service; these were removed many years since to Woolwich, and their place occupied by a curious collection of foreign ordnance, which had been captured by English valour. In the armoury there were kept 150,000 stand of arms, all ready for immediate use; and the walls, pillars, and ceiling were decorated with fanciful groups of pistols, cuirasses, halberds, carbines, &c., artistically arranged. The Waterloo Barracks now cover the site of the storehouse.

The first person recorded to have been imprisoned in the Tower of London was Ralph Flambard, Bishop of Durham, who to his episcopal dignity united the offices of High Treasurer and Justiciary in the reign of William II. His extortions and oppressions rendered him unpopular, and upon the accession of Henry I. he was confined in the Tower, where he continued to indulge in that revelry and intemperance by which he had been previously signalized. In a flagon of wine which his friends sent to him, a rope was concealed, by means of which he escaped from his prison, and subsequently reached Normandy, where he abetted Duke Robert in his fruitless endeavour to dethrone King Henry. The last individuals confined in this fortress were Thistlewood, Ings, Harrison, Davidson, Wilson, Brunt, and Tidd, for high treason in 1820. The Cato-street conspirators, with whom assassin and patriot were synonymous terms, only left the Tower to undergo punishment; the ringleaders being hanged at Newgate, and afterwards decapitated. To enumerate the hundreds of prisoners, noble and humble, guiltless and criminal, old and young, male and female, who have been inmates of the Tower during the interval of centuries, between the entrance of its first and last captives, would be no brief task. With their names every reader of the history of England must be conversant. The wars of the White and Red Roses, the captious tyranny of Henry VIII., the jealous and wayward humours of Queen Elizabeth, Monmouth's rebellion, and the rebellions of 1715 and 1745.

populated the Tower with victims, with whose melancholy stories everybody is familiar; and Shakspere has in no trifling degree portrayed the darkest points in the annals of the Tower.

The Tower was first appropriated as a royal residence by King Stephen; and in the reign of Henry II., Thomas à Becket was appointed its keeper. Upon the accession of Elizabeth it ceased to be a royal palace, its uses being restricted to those of a state prison, a royal arsenal, and a place of safety for the crown jewels.

The chief entrance to the Tower is through an enclosure called the Spur, at the south-west angle of the fortress, leading to a stone bridge, and defended by a round tower at each extremity. In former times the outworks at this point were more considerable; being enclosed by a small moat, they formed a barbican. Passing this gate, and traversing a bridge cast over the ditch, we reach the innermost gate, which was anciently strengthened by the addition of a portcullis. For the convenience of foot passengers a small postern leading from the drawbridge to the wharf, is daily opened at a fixed hour. On the south side, the wharf is connected with the fortress by two temporary bridges, one of which is a drawbridge. The Tower-gates are opened with much ceremony. At six in the morning the yeoman-porter, escorted by a serjeant's guard, repairs to the governor's house, where he receives the keys of the fortress. He then unlocks successively the three gates, and as the keys pass and repass, the soldiers on duty lower their arms. The yeoman-porter returns to the inmost gate, and summons the warders in attendance to take in Queen Victoria's keys, upon which the gate is opened. The gates are closed at eleven at night, when the yeoman-porter, with his guard, proceeds to the main guard, who are all under arms, commanded by their officer. One of the main guard cries—"Who comes here?" and the yeoman porter responds—"The keys." The challenger rejoins—"Pass keys." As the keys pass, the main guard lower arms; whereupon the yeoman-porter exclaims—"God save Queen Victoria;" a prayer to which the guards ejaculate a loud "Amen." The keys are then returned to the governor's house.

The Tower measures within the walls 12 acres and 5 rods; its circumference, on the outside of the ditch, is 1052 feet. This citadel is governed by a constable, an office which has long been held by the Duke of Wellington. Strangers may easily obtain entrance to the most attractive apartments in the Tower for a trifling fee. And now, quitting the Tower with more facility than has attended the departure of many of its previous inmates, we resume our river-progress.

CHAPTER IX.

THE THAMES—*concluded.*

THE PORT OF LONDON—THE POOL.

That portion of the river in which we now find ourselves, is crowded with shipping of all descriptions, merchant-vessels, collier-ships, home and foreign steam-boats, &c., extending from London Bridge to Deptford, and is called the Port of London. This part of the Thames is divided into the Upper, Middle, and Lower Pools, besides the space between Limehouse and Deptford. The limits of the Port of London are reckoned from the North Foreland in the Isle of Thanet, and thence northward in an imaginary line across the sea to an opposite point called the Nase, on the Essex coast, and continued westward up the Thames, and the several channels, falling into it, to London Bridge. The average width of the water way in the Pools is from 400 to 500 feet. We have previously noticed Wapping, Limehouse, and other places on the north bank; and Bermondsey, Deptford, &c., on the south bank of the river.

Sailing over the Thames Tunnel we proceed on our way, nothing arresting our attention till we approach a fine old hulk, moored off Greenwich, and which retains its original and appropriate name, the *Dreadnought*. This ancient man-of-war was in active service at the battle of Trafalgar, under Captain Conn, and made a prize of the Spanish three-decker the San Juan, which had previously been engaged by the Bellerophon and Defiance. The old Dreadnought, which has been stationary off Greenwich since June 20th, 1831, now discharges the Samaritan functions of an hospital-ship for invalid mariners of all countries.

Greenwich Hospital, as seen at this point of the Thames, presents a very beautiful appearance. In the foreground its elegant and substantial façades, stand out in bold relief, while the view of the distant acclivities in the Park, beheld through the open space between the wings, offers an agreeable contrast. The river here makes a considerable circuit, and in a few minutes we find ourselves off *Blackwall Pier*, to which the eastern terminus of the Blackwall Railway extends. The pier terrace is of great extent, and forms an admirable promenade. Here the Gravesend and Woolwich steamers halt to receive passengers brought by the rail from London; and the Rotterdam and other foreign steam-ships start from this place. The tide soon carries us to *Woolwich*, the yards of which skirt the river bank, and off which are moored some convict ships, a few men-of-war, and the Black Eagle, an admirably constructed iron steam-boat, expressly appropriated to the conveyance of Her Majesty to Scotland, and other parts of her dominions, for which water transit is most convenient. Opposite to Woolwich Pier is *North Woolwich*, the terminus of a branch of the Eastern Counties Railway, and whence steam ferry-boats carry the passengers across the stream. Here are a handsome hotel, a pavilion, with grounds tastefully laid out, and several houses, indicative of a rising neighbourhood, like other places, the offspring of a railway station.

We are now fairly on our way to sea, the distance between the shores widen, and the waves of the Thames increase in size and force. The steamer glides on at her best speed, her progress accelerated by a sharp breeze that has sprung up. And now that the metropolis looms dim in the distance, and the last signs of manufacturing industry gradually disappear, our fellow-passengers begin to breathe more freely, and seem to rejoice at the thought of having for a time lost sight of the cares of business, as well as of London, that city of incessant toil. Almost everybody appears the very incarnation of good humour, indifferent jokes are perpetrated, and received with as much enthusiastic admiration as if they had emanated from Theodore Hook; and the delights of the distant Gravesend are anticipated with a zest not to be exceeded by their actual enjoyment. Nor is music wanting to enhance the general harmony that prevails among the holiday-makers. A harp, a fiddle, and a flute; sometimes a harp and a cornopean—for a harp is always an integral part of the orchestra—suddenly appear from some unknown part of the vessel on deck, under the care of their several professors. The removal of a mass of green baise exposes the harp to public view, and though its gilding may be somewhat tarnished, and a string or too be minus, it will, doubtless, "discourse most excellent music" to the contented minds on board. Anon the performers strike up, teaching the ear, through their dulcet sounds, that variety is charming. We are duly apprised that "Britannia Rules the Waves;" after which we are reminded that, "She Wore a Wreath of Roses"—"On the Banks of the Ohio;" and "The Ship on Fire" runs into "Beautiful Venice;" while somehow or other, "The Standard Bearer" gets lost in "The Bay of Biscay." Quadrilles, and a choice selection from the thousand-and-one new polkas, leads the way to the national anthem, in which the enemies of Queen Victoria are exorcised in a right loyal manner. But though "music be the food of love," it is not an aliment sufficiently satisfactory to appease the gastric juices of its auditors, sharpened especially, as they fancy their appetites to have been, by the "sea-air;" and sandwich-baskets, dumpy bottles of stout, and of a fluid the exact colour of water, and other receptacles of provender, are forthwith opened, and their contents put into requisition to meet and to liquidate the claims of nature. And some of the company descend into the prettily decorated cabin, where they are unable to resist the attraction of a cold collation, and the polite attentions of the steward, who is never more happy than when giving liberty to the wire-incarcerated corks which restrain the effervescence of the pale and Edinburgh ales. When we see the exhilarating effects of a holiday upon our hard-working citizens, we cannot but reflect what trifles constitute the sum of human happiness, and regret that more frequent opportunities of harmless enjoyment are not open to the toiling inhabitants of London.

Our meditations are abruptly interrupted by the cry of "*Erith*," for which a few of our fellow-travellers are bound.

Erith was anciently a place of some note, Richard de Lucy, grand justiciary of the kingdom in the reign of Henry II., having founded in this parish the abbey of Lesnes, of which he became the prior. Several noble families were successively the owners of Erith, till it devolved to the crown in the person of Edward IV. By Henry VIII. it was granted to Elizabeth, Countess of Shrewsbury, and afterwards it frequently changed hands. Among the monuments in the ancient church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, are memorials to the Countess of Shrewsbury, who died in 1568; and to her daughter, the countess of Pembroke, who died in 1589. The East India ships were accustomed, till within the last fifteen years, to cast anchor here, and remain some time in order to be lightened of their burden. Latterly Erith has aspired to the rank of a watering-place, and with the aids and appliances of a pier, hotel, and pleasure-gardens, has endeavoured, and not without success, to intercept a part of the visitors who flock to Gravesend. A little below Erith the Darent flows into the Thames. Opposite to Erith, on the Essex side, is the village of *Purfleet,* the repository of ordnance stores and powder magazines. Its most conspicuous point is the *Beacon Cliff,* which serves as a landmark to sailors, and whence a wide prospect is gained of the river and of the opposite coast. Several places on this side of the river we have considered it unnecessary to mention, as of the thousands that sail down the Thames, the great majority land on the Kentish side, few, indeed, setting foot on the Essex shores.

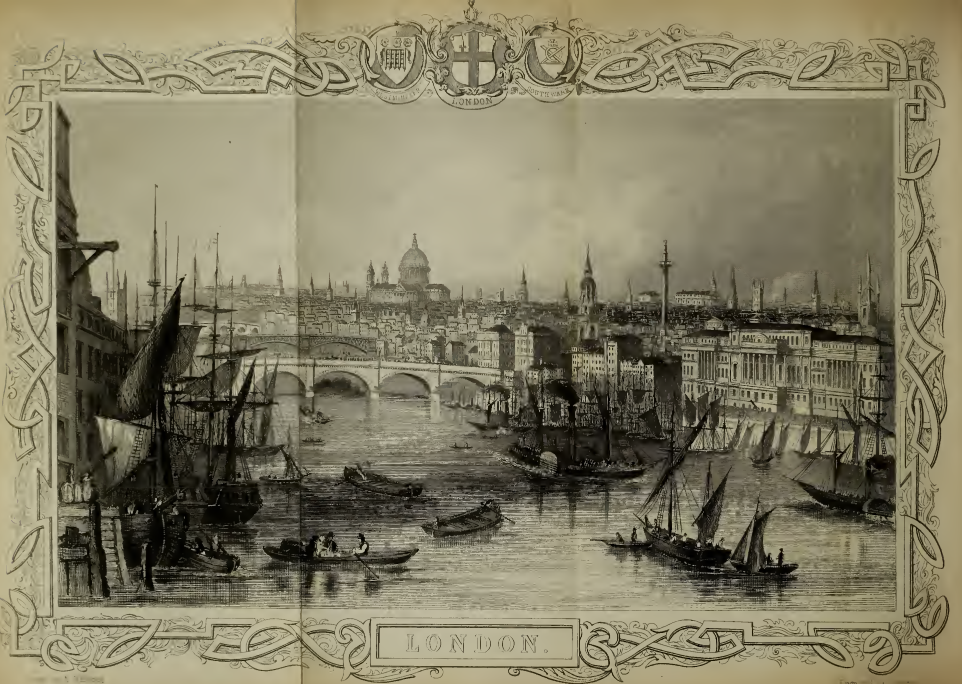
Returning into Kent, the church of *St. Mary, Stone,* a venerable specimen of ecclesiastical taste, meets the eye. It is a beautiful structure, consisting of a chancel, a nave, and side aisles, and has been considered the finest piece of Gothic architecture in the diocese of Rochester. The manor of Stone was given to the see of Rochester by King Ethelred in 1613, and the bishops were accustomed formerly to live for some months in the year in the manor-house. The blooming hamlet of *Greenhithe,* to which there is a commodious pier, is the next attractive spot in the panorama of the Thames. Greenhithe is famous for its immense chalk-pits; the cliffs whence chalk has been dug presenting in many places perpendicular heights of from one hundred to one hundred and fifty feet. Close by, and commanding a fine view of the river, is *Ingress Abbey,* seated in the centre of a luxuriant plantation, the seat of Mr. James Harmer, and in the construction of which some of the stones of old London Bridge were employed by that gentleman. The original building that covered this site was a religious house, called Ince-Grice, belonging to the prioress and nuns of Dartford. This edifice, at the dissolution, became crown property, and was converted into a private residence. It belonged to the Earl of Bessborough in 1758, by whom it was disposed of, and eventually Ince-Grice, or Ingress, became the property of Mr. Harmer, who has made it one of the most delightful mansions on the banks of the Thames.

The village of *Northfleet* next comes in view. It is built on a lofty chalk hill, and, like Greenhithe, is conspicuous for its extensive chalk excavations, and its lime-kilns. Adjoining Northfleet (of which properly speaking it is a part), *Rosherville* is seen, a place of recent construction, and named after its projector, Mr. Jeremiah Rosher. It may be called a pleasure town, all its edifices having reference to the *dolce far niente.* It is a kind of Cheltenham in miniature, containing ornamental terraces and squares, baths, hotels, promenades, a pier, and last, not least in the estimation of its visitors, the extensive pleasure grounds known as *Rosherville Gardens,* and to stroll through the Arcadian groves of which no inconsiderable number of our social companions quit the steam-boat. These gardens are beautifully laid out, presenting a contrast of hill and dale, and abound in choice varieties of the most valuable flowers. They offer also some zoological attraction; a bear-pit, a monkey-cavern, and several tropical birds of the brightest plumage, claiming the attention of the lovers of natural history. Then there is the Maze, in which many voluntarily lose their way, an egress from which the novice, amid its windings, finds no easy task; and the baronial hall, where the refreshment tables are crowded with the good-natured lords of creation, and the fair devotees of tea, coffee, bread and butter, and shrimps. No affectation here—no lady so genteel as to fancy the display of a good appetite an indication of vulgarity—all do justice to the simple banquet; proving, at least on this occasion, that eating and enjoyment are identical. At length the guests are satisfied—and so are the waiters; and the band in the gallery begining to tune their instruments remind the company, that having recruited their strength, the best way of exhibiting it is in the evolutions of the polka, or in the quieter movements of the quadrille. Of the Terpsichorean exertions that follow, more physical than graceful, we need not speak—another Hans Holbein is wanted to picture the universality of dancing, and the characteristics of the dancers in 1851. On gala-nights fire-works wind up the amusements of Rosherville Gardens, where certainly every expedient is resorted to, to drive dull care away.

Leaving Rosherville we reach in a few minutes *Gravesend*, to which there are two piers—the *Town Pier* leading to High-street, the chief street of the town; and the *Terrace Pier*, conducting to Harmer-street, a new street named after the proprietor of Ingress Abbey. In Doomsday Book, Gravesend was written Graves-Ham, which signifies the residence of the greve or ruler. Bishop Odo, half-brother to William I., was one of the early possessors of Gravesend, the manor of which now belongs to the Earl of Darnley. Some part of the early history of Gravesend is interesting, especially that which relates to the conveyance of passengers between that place and London, and contrasting strangely with the rapid transit which now prevails. Richard II. made "a grant to the men of Gravesend and Milton, of the exclusive privilege of conveying passengers from thence to London, on the condition that they should provide boats on purpose, and carry every person, either at twopence per head with his bundle, or the whole boats' fare should be four shillings."

In the year 1380 this town was burnt, and several of the inhabitants carried away by the French and Spaniards, who came up the Thames in row-gallies. For its further security Henry VIII. raised a platform of guns to the east of the town, and erected Tilbury Fort on the Essex shore. Anterior to the formation of the metropolitan wet-docks, outward bound ships took in their live and dead stock, and vegetables at Gravesend; besides which they were obliged to cast anchor before the town, till they had been examined, and obtained proper clearances from the Custom-house officers, fiscal regulations which operated very beneficially for Gravesend. New Custom-house arrangements were made, by which outward-bound vessels obtaining their clearances in the docks, were not required to halt at Gravesend. At this juncture, when the prosperity of Gravesend was in jeopardy, a new source of revenue came to its aid. The introduction of steam-boats on the river, and their superiority over the old sailing-boats in speed and comfort, soon rendered Gravesend a place of popular resort, and improvements were made in the town with a view to the accommodation of visitors. Before the advent of steam-boats Gravesend appeared on Sundays little better than a deserted village; now its streets are crowded with self-invited guests in search of fresh air and recreation. Every season more than half-a-million of passengers are brought hither by the steam-boats. The railway from London Bridge, which was opened little more than a year ago, also adds to the influx of visitors to the town. Gravesend, within two hours' distance of London by water, and one by rail, offers all the *agrémens* of a watering-place. With *Milton,* which joins it, it forms an extensive town, the principal new buildings and streets, and most agreeable walks, being in the former. The *Terrace-gardens,* between which is the Terrace-pier, are admirably planted, and afford a pleasant promenade. "Gravesend," says Mr. Thorne, "presents the most extraordinary appearance on a bright hot Sunday, when visitors flow in by thousands. Always a dry and dusty neighbourhood, then, when every dusty avenue is thronged with troops of holiday-makers, the heat and the dust are increased forty-fold—but the powers of endurance appear increased proportionally. And what an absorption of restoratives—particularly the liquid kind—is there! Towards evening, especially, the eating and drinking, are 'prodigious.' However, there is abundant provision made, and every one obtains all he desires,—from the 'fast man' who takes white bait and champagne at the Talbot, to the soberest cit who is content with tea and shrimps in one of the odd little tea-rooms."

From Gravesend to *Tilbury Fort,* on the opposite coast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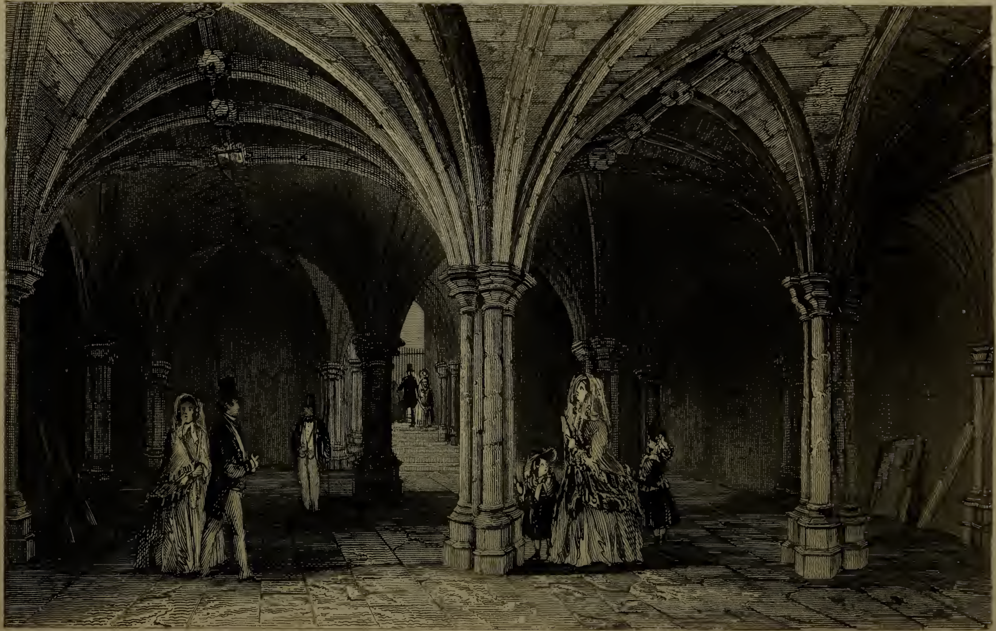
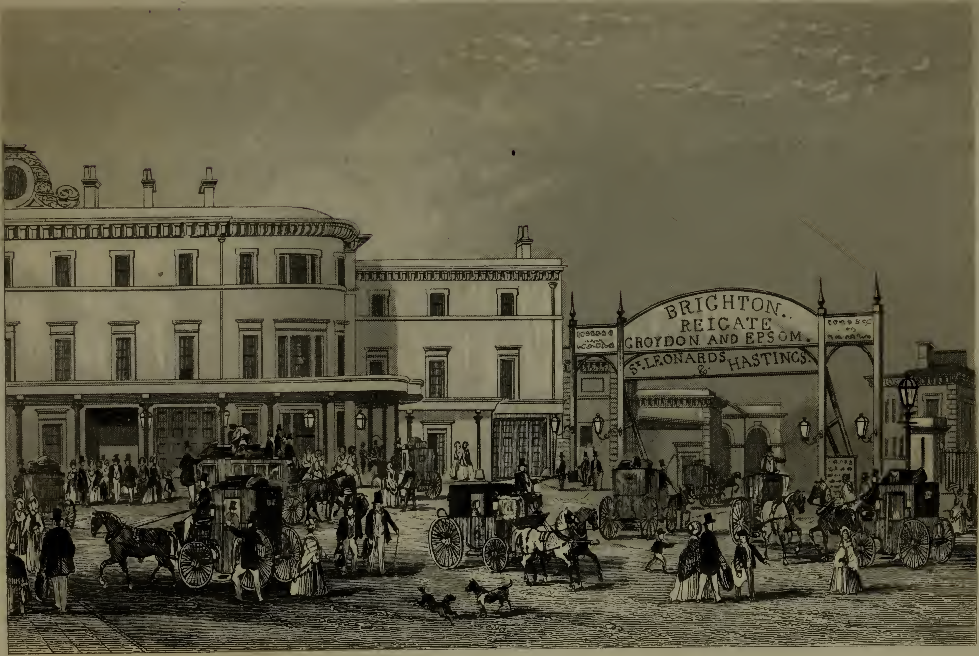


THE CRYPT AT GUILDHALL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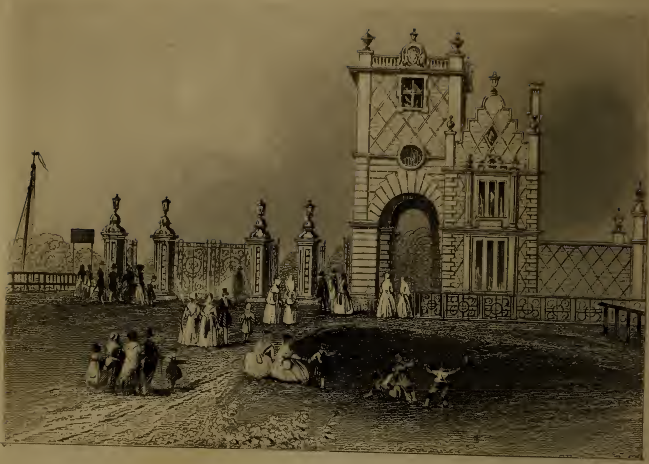
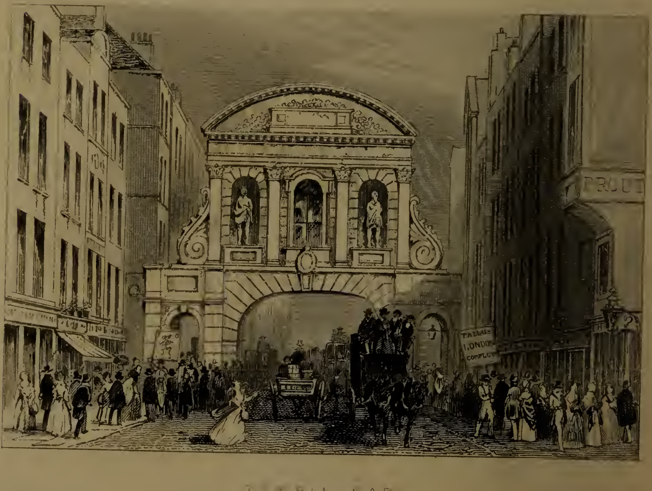

LONDON COMPLETE

NEW LODGE VICTORIA PARK

Bonner's Fields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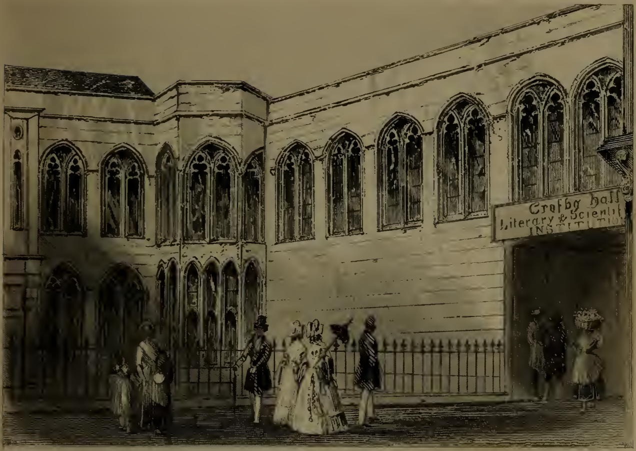
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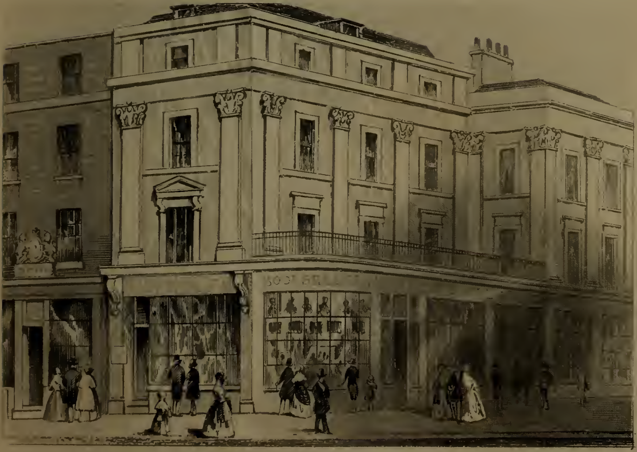
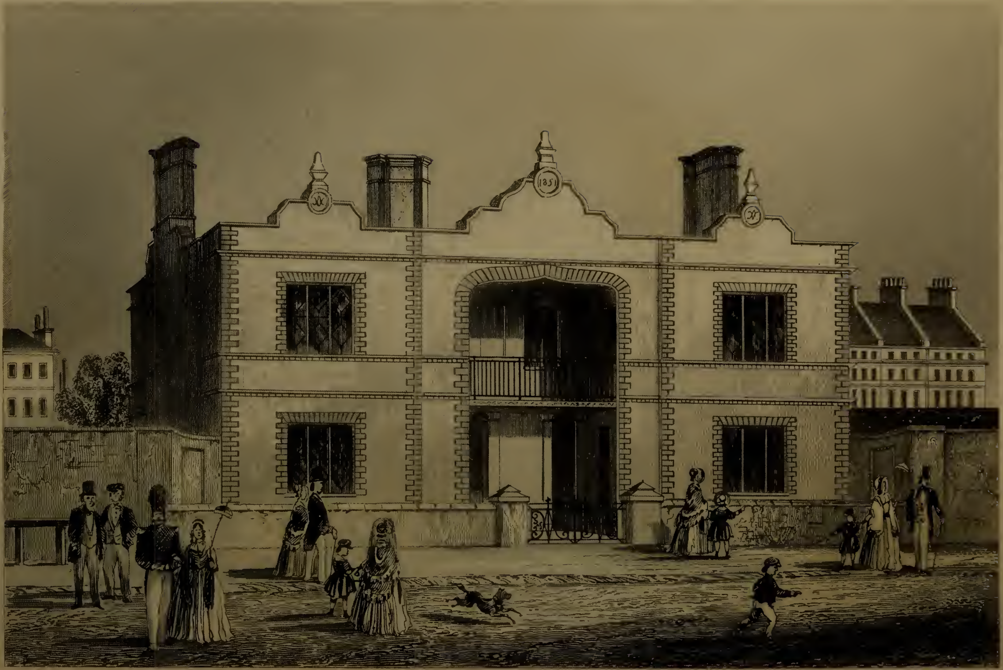
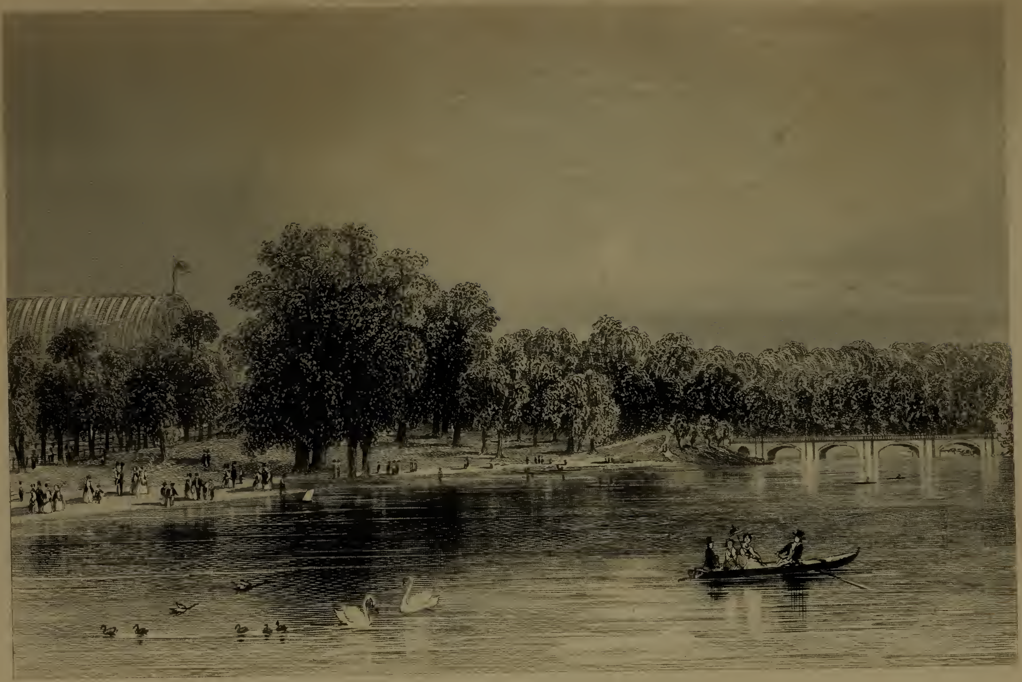


ST BRIDES AVENUE



PRINCE ALBERT'S MODEL LODGING HOUSE

ERECTED IN HYDE PARK 1851



THE SERPENTINE, HYDE PARK.

there is a ferry. In 1778, a plan was prepared to make a tunnel under the bed of the Thames, between Gravesend and Tilbury Fort. The engineer was a Mr. Dodd, and he undertook to render this subaqueous passage sufficiently capacious for all the purposes of land commerce, and to be illuminated by lamps, so that an uninterrupted communication might be preserved. He estimated that the undertaking would involve an outlay of £15,995. The scheme was patronized by the two counties, a subscription was opened to defray the expense of carrying it into effect, an act of parliament was obtained, and the work was commenced on the Gravesend side by the sinking of a shaft to the depth of 85 feet. Either Mr. Dodd had not the perseverance of Brunel, or the funds failed, or the estimate fell far short of the amount required, for the works progressed no further beyond the sinking of the shaft. Mr. Cruden, the historian of Gravesend, observes—"An excellent commentary on the result appears on a loose paper of the Company, probably sketched by a member of the committee, at a meeting to close the accounts—'Total cost of the well, £15,242 10*s.* 4½*d.*'" We have already stated that Tilbury Fort was erected by Henry VIII. to protect Gravesend against foreign invasion. This blockhouse was rendered an efficient citadel of defence by an Italian engineer named Genibelli, when the Spaniards meditated the capture of England. At Tilbury Fort, the great military camp was stationed to check the progress of the Spanish Armada, and here Queen Elizabeth delivered to the troops that famous harangue against the contemplated invaders. In the reign of Charles II., and of succeeding monarchs, additions were made to Tilbury Fort, and its strength and value as a fortress preserved.

The Thames at Gravesend Pier is 800 feet wide; and three miles below, at Coal-house Point, where the Lower Hope begins, its breadth is augmented to 1,290 yards: while ten miles further on at the London Stone, by Yantlet Creek, where the jurisdiction of the corporation of

London terminates, the river is nearly four miles and-a-half across.* Leaving Yantlet, we reach the village of *Leigh* on the Essex side, beyond which, on the same side is *Southend*, a quiet little watering-place, the steam-boat pier of which extends nearly a mile and-a-half from the bank. Next to Southend is *Shoebury Ness*, from which point the Essex coast imperceptibly disappears. At *Sheerness*, on the opposite shore, famous for its naval dock-yard, the Medway flows into the Thames; and that mighty river, which in its course has absorbed so many tributary streams for its own aggrandisement, upon reaching the Nore becomes itself swallowed up in the ocean.

The entire length of the Thames from its source to the sea is as follows:—length of the Churn, 20 miles; from the junction of the Churn with the Lech, 9; to the junction of the Windrush, 14; to the junction of the Charwell, 13; to the junction of the Thame, 16; to the junction of the Rennet, 22; to London Bridge, 70; and to the sea, 56:—total, 220.

CHAPTER X.

THE DOCKS OF LONDON.

The shipping interest constitutes one of the chief sources of revenue of this country, and its increasing prosperity gives to England a commercial pre-eminence which no other nation can approach. The insular position of England, and other local circumstances, have conspired to render her a maritime state, and her supremacy over the ocean is no vain boast—it is no boast at all—it is an indisputable truth which her well-manned fleets, whether commercial, or for the purposes of war, amply attest. Her example has been emulated by other countries, the increasing navies of which are, at the best, but humble followers in the wake of the greatest naval power in the world. Great Britain has long been famous for her shipping, and her ports are numerous and effective. To mention only a few—London, Liverpool, Newcastle, and Bristol, are the depôts of a vast number of vessels of every description, of various tonnages, laden with home and foreign produce. We, however, have only to touch upon the shipping wealth of London. And as that is, perhaps, represented most accurately by its docks, we subjoin a brief notice of the principal ones.

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* *Rambles by Rivers.*

St. Katharine's Docks.—These docks, with the warehouses attached, occupy the entire eastern extent of the Tower of London, and to make room for them the whole of the filthy neighbourhood of St. Katharine's, with its church and hospital, were swept away. The collegiate church of St. Katharine formerly belonged to the hospital established in 1148, by Matilda of Boulogne, wife of King Stephen, for the support of a master, brothers, sisters, and other poor persons. The hospital of St. Katharine's was rebuilt in the more salubrious and pleasant neighbourhood of Regent's Park. The first stone of the new docks was laid on the third of May, 1827, and they were opened on the 25th October, 1828, the outlay incurred being about £2,152,800. The area of the building comprehends 24 acres, of which 11½ are appropriated to wet docks; and the premises consist of two docks called east and west, with a basin and a connecting dock-canal. Spacious warehouses encompass the docks, erected within a few feet of the edge of the water, so that the goods are raised at once from the vessels to the warehouse in which they are to be placed. Accommodation is provided for 110,000 tons of goods in warehouses well protected against the weather, and the extent of water accommodation is such that the docks can conveniently receive from 140 to 150 ships, besides craft at one time. The quay exhibits a frontage of 4,600 feet, having a depth of 96 feet. The lock leading from the river is 180 feet long, and 45 feet broad, having at spring tides 28 feet depth of water; it is crossed by a swing bridge 23 feet wide, supposed to be the largest of the kind ever constructed. The great advantage of this lock is, that it is sunk so deep that ships of 700 tons burden may enter at any time of the tide. There are three gates in the lock, the first next the river, one in the centre, and the third leading to the basin. Behind these docks there are a wharf and pier, comprising a frontage to the river of 187 feet for the convenience of steam-vessels to Margate, Gravesend, &c., where passengers land and embark free of cost. The chief entrance is through a noble gateway at the north-west corner of the warehouses, nearly opposite the Mint. The docks belong to a joint stock company, and are managed by a board of direction. The late Mr. Thomas Telford prepared the designs and superintended the erection of the works; the warehouses were built after the plans and under the inspection of Mr. Philip Hardwick. The full receipts of St. Katharine's Docks in 1846, were £229,814 odd; entire disbursements, £124,269 odd; thus making the balance of profit reach £105,545 odd.

The London Docks, which are nearly adjacent to St. Katharine's, are located in Wapping, a great part of which parish was excavated along the Thames almost to Ratcliff-highway for their formation. The principal dock, including a circuit of more that 20 acres, is 1,262 feet long, 960 wide, and 29 in depth. The expense of its construction was £1,200,000, and it will admit at one time 200 sail of merchantmen. The dock, which is entered through a basin opposite Wapping Old Stairs, was thrown open on the 1st of February, 1805. The eastern dock (which was opened in 1832) contains an area of 7 acres. Between these docks are the tobacco dock (1 acre in extent), appropriated entirely to tobacco ships, and the warehouses, which are most extensive. The great tobacco warehouse, the north side of the tobacco dock, is the most magnificent structure of its kind in existence, and is rented by government at £1,400 per annum. It is 762 feet long, 160 wide, covers nearly 5 acres of ground, and will hold 24,000 hogsheads of tobacco. Below these warehouses is a complete city of vaults, covering the vast space of 18 acres, and where there is room to deposit more than 60,000 pipes of wine. A tasting-order to the vaults of the London Docks is a luxury in which the lovers of genuine wine delight. The foundation of the entrance basin was laid on the 26th of June, 1802, by the Chancellor of the Exchequer (William Pitt), together with the first stone of the tobacco warehouse. The docks, erected after the designs of the late John Rennie, were opened in January, 1805, and the first ship which entered was a brig, named *The London Packet,* from Oporto, with a cargo of wine. A valuable prerogative was granted at their opening to these docks, in virtue of which all ships bound for the Thames containing cargoes of wine, brandy, tobacco, and rice (except East India and West Indiamen) were compelled to unload here for the space of 21 years. In 1826 this charter expired. The new tea warehouses, constructed for the reception of 120,000 chests of tea, were completed in 1845. Mr. Weale says that this great establishment comprehends in the whole an area of 90 acres, with three entrances from the Thames, viz.: Hermitage, 40 feet in width, Wapping 40 feet in width, and Shadwell 45 feet; the cost of the entire structure was £4,000,000.

The West India Docks.—These docks, which were built by Mr. William Jessop, the engineer, are remarkable as being the earliest wet-docks formed in the port of London. The first stone was laid by that eminent statesman William Pitt, in July, 1800, and the docks were partly opened in the summer of 1802. They are situate in the Isle of Dogs, and communicate with the Thames at Limehouse on the west, and at Blackwall on the east, covering an extent of 295 acres. At first they only comprehended an import and an export dock, the former containing 204 vessels of 300 tons burden each. Each of these docks is connected by locks, with a basin of nearly 6 acres in extent next to Blackwall, and with another basin exceeding 2 acres, adjacent to Limehouse. In 1829 the West India Dock Company purchased the City Canal from Government, for the purpose of converting it into a dock, at the price of £120,000, and gave to it the name of the South Dock. The Export Dock, which is used by vessels loading outwards, will contain nearly 200 vessels. It is 2,600 feet long, by 400 feet wide, and stands upon 25 acres of ground. The Import, or North Dock is of equal length, and 500 feet wide, and covers about 30 acres. On the north side of this dock are capacious warehouses, for sugar and other dry goods. On the south are similar premises for rum, and a quay and shed for wood on the east and west side. A lofty boundary wall environs the whole. The south dock is 3,700 feet long, with lock entrances at both extremities. The locks of this dock, and of that opening into the Blackwall basin are 45 feet broad, width enough for the admission of vessels of 1,200 tons. The depth of water in the docks at spring tide is 25 feet, and they afford room for 600 vessels, varying from 250 to 500 tons burden. In 1838 the East India Docks were incorporated with those of the West India Company, a body which is now called the East and West India Dock Company.

The East India Docks, although now united with the West India Docks, demand a brief notice. The first stone was laid in the spring of 1805, and the docks were opened in the summer of 1806. Originally they were confined to the use of East Indiamen, now they are free to vessels from every port. They include an import dock, covering an area of 18 acres, and measuring 1,410 feet long, and 560 wide; and an export dock, extending over nine acres, and measuring 760 feet long, and 463 feet wide. The entrance basin connecting the dock with the river, occupies 2¾ acres. They contain 23 feet water, and admit vessels of the largest size. These docks were constructed after the designs of the late John Rennie and Ralph Walker.

The other principal docks at Rotherhithe, Deptford, &c., have been previously noticed in our description of the localities where they are found.

CHAPTER XI.

THE HOSPITALS.

THE word hospital in this country has a very general meaning. It signifies an asylum for the old or young, very superior in its resources to a workhouse; a place for the reception of lunatics; and, perhaps, in its most extensive sense, a receptacle where those suffering from illness, or from bodily injury, are lodged, and their complaints treated in the best manner which medical science can devise. Having already sketched Greenwich and Chelsea Hospitals, and the Lunatic Hospitals, we propose to confine ourselves to a description of those where medical aid is afforded, and of these the number is so great, which public liberality or private munificence have founded, that we can only particularise a few.

The metropolis contains 38 hospitals of a medical and surgical character; 21 medical institutions, and 35 dispensaries.

The most ancient hospital in London is that of *St. Bartholomew*, in West Smithfield. Rahere, minstrel to Henry I., like modern saints, when the tastes, inclinations, and powers of youth had departed, waxed religious, making an offering to heaven of the dregs of his faculties, and the remnant of his days. He established a priory of black canons, in Smithfield, dedicated to St. Bartholomew, and became himself its first prior. In 1122 he annexed to the priory an hospital for the reception of the poor and sick, granting to it an endowment of £305. In the course of time other benefactions augmented the usefulness of the hospital, which was repaired by the executors of Sir Richard Whittington, in 1423. The priory was suppressed by Henry VIII., who preserved the hospital, and gave 500 marks a-year to it, on condition that the city should give the like sum, so as to render it available for the reception of 100 poor and sick persons. The foundation was not much benefited by the royal grant, for the houses, on which the 500 marks were insured, were in so ruinous a state, that their produce was very trifling. The citizens, at a great expense, repaired them, and by munificent contributions rendered the hospital a great source of comfort to the sick and needy. In 1660, the funds had so much increased as to admit of the reception of 300 persons. In 1730 it was considered necessary to re-erect the whole, and the plans of Gibbs, the architect of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, were adopted. Subscriptions were raised, and the principal buildings were erected between 1730 and 1760. The structure is a quadrangle with an extensive inner court. The principal entrance to the hospital on the south-east side of Smithfield, is of the Doric order of architecture, and consists of a large arch, surmounted by a statue of Henry VIII., and also by effigies of Sickness and Lameness. The hospital itself is composed of four distinct elevations, three stories high, faced with stone, and standing detached on the sides of the quadrangle. The grand staircase was painted gratuitously by Hogarth. The four several stories of the south wing contains fifteen wards, and there are fourteen wards in the west wing. The wards in the east and west wings are 52 by 21½ feet, and their altitude varies from 10 to 15 feet. The wards are 60 feet long in the south wings, and their height corresponds with that of those just named. In the roof of each wing is deposited a tank holding from 1,800 to 2,000 gallons of water, supplied by a steam-engine, and a continual supply from the New River Company is carried all through the hospital by force-pumps. Within its circuit the institution also comprehends the residences of the treasurer, steward, and other officers; and the church of *St. Bartholomew-the-Less*, a Gothic structure with an ancient tower, formerly the chapel of the hospital, but now a parish church for those who reside within the hospital precincts. The interior was restored by Mr. Hardwick, in 1823, at the expense of the foundation. At the rear of the west wing are lecture-rooms, dissecting-rooms, an anatomical museum, and the other appurtenances of a medical school. The medical school was founded as early as 1662. In 1843 a collegiate establishment was formed to impart medical instruction, with general and moral superintendence, and residence within the building. Four scholarships, of triennial tenure, and of the yearly value of £50 each are attached. The annual revenue of the hospital is £32,000, of which more than £17,000 issue from the London rentals. The donations and legacies of money to this institution exceed a quarter of a million of money. The hospital is open at all times to accidents or cases of emergency. It contains 580 beds. In 1848, 5,826 in-patients; 19,149 out-patients; and 46,598 sufferers from casualties (making a total of 71,573), received aid from St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

St. Thomas's Hospital, in High-street, Southwark, was originally founded by Richard, prior of Bermondsey, as an almshouse for indigent children and necessitous proselytes. On the dissolution of religious houses it was appropriated by the crown. When the mayor and corporation of London purchased the manor of Southwark from Edward VI. for £647 2*s.* 1*d.*, the hospital fell into their possession, and having obtained a charter for it in 1551, they repaired and enlarged the structure so as to render it capable of receiving 260 poor, sick, and helpless persons. It was opened in November, 1562. At first the hospital had to contend with pecuniary difficulties, but these were soon surmounted, and it became a flourishing institution. In 1693 a great portion of it was rebuilt, Thomas Guy, the founder of Guy's Hospital, erecting three of the wards at his own expense, and Mr. Thomas Frederick Eyer, a governor, raising three others. The yearly income of of the hospital is about £26,000, and from 1693 to 1836 the donations and bequests amounted to nearly £185,000. The hospital contains 19 wards, in which are made up 428 beds, and in 1849 administered to the wants of 59,710 patients; of which 5,013 were in-patients. This edifice is composed of several courts or squares, in the centres of two of which are statues—a brass one of Edward VI., by Scheemakers; and one of stone representing Sir Robert Clayton, who filled the office of Lord Mayor in 1680. In 1836 a new north wing was finished, the outlay being £18,000, and in 1842 a south wing was added. Mr. Charles Knight states that the site of the new north wing, and a portion of the ground north of the old north wing were purchased of the city for £40,850, which was at the astounding rate of £54,865 per acre! St. Thomas's has long been celebrated for its medical schools, and for the number of students attached thereto. Within its precincts is the parish church of St. Thomas, and the entire parish belongs to the hospital.

Guy's Hospital, in St. Thomas's-street, Southwark, a noble monument of the munificence of a single individual, was founded by Thomas Guy, the son of a lighterman at Horsleydown, where he was born in 1644. He was apprenticed to a bookseller in the porch of Mercer's Chapel, and when out of his time commenced business with a capital of £200, in the house that once formed the angle between Cornhill and Lombard-street. The English bibles being very badly printed at that time, Mr. Guy engaged with others in a scheme for printing them in Holland, and importing them; but this system being prohibited, he contracted with the University of Oxford for their privilege of printing them, and carried on a large bible trade for many years. He added to his emoluments by purchasing seamen's tickets during Queen Anne's wars, and by dealing in South Sea stock in the year 1720. All that he touched turned to gold, and he rapidly accumulated money, which, however liberally dispensed in promoting the comfort of others, was very sparingly spent upon himself. At the time when in the possession of means which would have justified profusion to some extent, he was content to make his shop-counter a dining-table, with no other covering than an antiquated newspaper. It is reported that in his old age Guy was smitten with the charms of his maid-servant, and had agreed to marry her. Preparatory to his nuptials, he had ordered the pavement in front of his house, which was in a neglected state, to be mended as far as to a particular stone, which he indicated. The maid, looking at the men at work while her master and lover was out, noticed a broken place which they had not repaired, and mentioned it to them, but they told her that Mr. Guy had directed them not to go so far. "Well," said the bride elect, "do you mend it, and tell him I desired you; I know he will not be angry." Molly was premature in the assumption of influence; the pavement was mended, but the match was broken off; Guy, perhaps, calculating that he could not rely on the obedience of a helpmate who, before she became his wife, was disposed to rebel against his orders. Luckily for posterity he remained a bachelor, appropriating his vast wealth to the foundation of hospitals and other charitable institutions.

At the mature age of seventy-six Guy commenced the erection of this hospital, which he lived to see completed, at an expense af £18,793 16*s.* 1*d.* The benevolent founder died on the 27th of December, 1724, and on the 24th of January, in the ensuing year, sixty patients were received into the hospital, to which Guy left the munificent endowment of £220,134 2*s.* 7½*d.*, which was advantageously invested by the trustees of the hospital funds in the purchase of real estates in Essex, Herefordshire, and Lincolnshire. Following worthily in the steps of Guy, Mr. Hunt, of Petersham, who died in 1829, bequeathed to the hospital the large sum of £196,115, with the proviso that accommodation should be made for 100 additional patients. The annual income of the foundation exceeds

£30,000. There are two entrances, the principal one in St. Thomas's-street, and the other, or back entrance, in King-street. In the square of the first entrance there is a brass statue of Guy by Scheemakers. The residences of the treasurer, chaplain, steward, and other officers, and a chapel, occupy two sides of the square; and the centre, or main building, is composed of a number of wards for the reception of in-patients, surgery, laboratories, medical and operating theatres, a *post mortem* examination chamber, waiting-rooms for out-patients, &c. The buildings on the south side comprehend the museum, theatre, dissecting-room, a museum of comparative anatomy, various sick and convalescent wards, and a lunatic-house for the reception of 24 insane persons. The hospital makes up 580 beds. The out-patients are calculated to amount to 40,000 a year. The medical and surgical schools attached to this hospital are attended by numerous students, who are required to "walk the hospitals," as an initiative to future practice.

The Westminster Hospital, standing on the ground once covered by the Old Broad Sanctuary, is opposite to the western entrance of the Abbey. It was founded in 1719, and was the first hospital in London which depended for support on voluntary aid. The present structure, an Elizabethan edifice of handsome proportions, was erected in 1834. It makes up 174 beds, and in three unoccupied wards there is room for 50 additional ones. In 1849, 1,746 in-patients, and 14,009 out-patients were on the books. The yearly revenue averages £4,000, a moiety of which issues from voluntary subscriptions.

St. George's Hospital, Hyde Park Corner, Grosvenor-square, was founded in 1733, on the same plan as the Westminster, by a dissentient party from that institution. The original structure was Lanesborough House, which formed the centre of the old hospital, wings afterwards being added to it to render it more convenient for the new purposes to which it had been appropriated. Lanesborough House was the country mansion of Theophilus, first Lord

Lanesborough, a nobleman remarkable for his devotion to dancing, a recreation in which even the gout could not restrain him from participating. He considered dancing a panacea for all affliction, and when Queen Anne had to regret the loss of her consort, Prince George of Denmark, the sympathising courtier advised her majesty to seek for an antidote to her grief in the pleasures of a cotillon or minuet. He died in 1723, and ten years afterwards Lanesborough House became St. George's Hospital. The hospital was incorporated in 1824, and the present handsome edifice, the chief front of which is 180 feet in length, was erected by Mr. Wilkins in 1829. It contains 350 beds, a lecture theatre, and an anatomical museum. The yearly income averages little more than £7,000, of which only £3,000 are derivable from property. The celebrated John Hunter expired suddenly in St. George's Hospital, his death having been caused by the excitement of a quarrel in the board-room, while suffering under an affection of the heart.

The London Hospital, in Whitechapel-road, was established in 1740, and removed to its present situation in 1759. The patients are mostly sick and wounded sailors, watermen, and workmen employed in the docks, and on the quays among the shipping. The edifice is a brick building, composed of a centre and two wings, the eastern one having been recently enlarged. It is maintained by voluntary subscription, and is furnished with 330 beds. In 1850, 33,000 patients were administered to, of whom 4,185 were in-patients. The yearly revenue approaches £15,000.

The Middlesex Hospital, Charles-street, Tottenham-court-road, was founded in 1745, in Windmill-street, Tottenham-court-road, and ten years afterwards removed to the more eligible spot which it now occupies, and known a century back as Marylebone-fields. The building includes a centre and two wings. It contains 285 beds, and there is a ward appropriated to cases of cancer, the endowment for which was bequeathed by Mr. Samuel Whitbread, who died in 1796. Ophthalmic and dental disorders also come within the province of the hospital. The yearly revenue is about £9,500. In 1849 the number of patients was 12,079.

The Royal Free Hospital, founded in 1828 in Greville-street, Hatton-garden, and thence removed, in 1842, to the premises in Gray's-inn-lane, formerly occupied as barracks by the Light Horse Volunteers, was established by Dr. Marsden; and the late King William IV. and Queen Adelaide were among its most munificent patrons. Here the poor who seek medical relief, either as in-patients or out-patients, require no subscriber's letter or any other introductory credentials, save those of poverty and sickness. During the visitations of the cholera much good was effected by this hospital, 700 persons attacked with the frightful disease being admitted in 1832, and in 1849 more than 3,000. In the last-named year 154 of the pauper children of the Holborn Union, suffering from this complaint, were removed to the Free Hospital, where only four out of the entire number died. This charitable institution makes 134 beds, having room, however, for 500. In 1849 it extended assistance to upwards of 28,000 patients.

The Hospital for Consumption at Brompton, was founded in 1841, and incorporated in 1849. The structure is of red brick and stone, in the Tudor style. In 1849 the renowned vocalist, Jenny Lind, gave a concert for the benefit of the hospital, realizing on its behalf £1,556, an amount which was appropriated to the construction of an east wing, to be called, when completed, the Jenny Lind wing. In the year closing May the 30th, 1850, 360 in-patients were admitted, and relief administered to 3,176 out-patients. The income from contributions in 1849 was £4,000, the expenditure reaching £4,400.

The *Small Pox Hospital* at Highgate, and the *Fever Hospital* in the Liverpool road, Islington, are handsome edifices of recent construction, their original site having been at King's Cross.

CHAPTER XII.

THE PUBLIC CEMETERIES.

We are returning in some respects to the customs of our ancestors. In another portion of this work we have shewn that extra-mural interment prevailed centuries ago in England. The practice of burying within the walls of a city of such vast population, and so thickly covered with buildings as London, has long been prejudicially felt, and there can be no doubt that this pernicious system has added, in no inconsiderable degree, to the metropolitan mortality. A better state of things is now in progress, the health of the people has become an object of primary importance, and as a means of improving the public health, cemeteries have of recent years been established in localities at considerable distances beyond the range of the metropolis, and which we doubt not will in the course of time entirely supersede the intra-mural burial-places.

Of these cemeteries the first formed, and the most extensive one, is that at *Kensal Green,* projected under the auspices of the General Cemetery Company, and opened in 1832. It is situate on the Harrow Road, about three miles from the Hyde Park end of Oxford-street, and is composed of 46 acres of ground, beautifully planted with flowers and shrubs. It contains two chapels, one for the use of Dissenters, a colonnade, and catacombs, which are adapted for the reception of 5,000 bodies. The ground is covered with tombs and ornamental monuments, on not a few of which are inscriptions of a powerful and touching character. The late Duke of Sussex and the Princess Sophia are buried here; and among the other denizens of this silent "city of the dead," may be named the Rev. Sydney Smith; Thomas Hood; Thomas Barnes (an eminent editor of the *Times* newspaper); Allan Cunningham, the poet; Dr. Birkbeck, whose noblest monuments are the Mechanics' Institutions, of which he was the original founder; John Murray, the publisher of Byron's works; Anne Scott and Sophia Lockhart, daughters of Sir Walter Scott, and John Hugh Lockhart, grandson of the "Great Unknown," and the child for whom he wrote the *Tales of a Grandfather;* Liston, the comedian; Sir George Murray; Chief Justice Tindal; Charles Buller, M.P.; and we might swell our list till it appeared like a funereal court guide if we were to include therein the names of the duchesses, marchionesses, countesses, ladies, marquises, earls, bishops, baronets, knights, and others of rank and distinction, who compose this grim levee of the dead.

The *Highgate Cemetery* (belonging to the London Cemetery Company), is in a picturesque position, immediately below the parish church, and from the site which it covers, a bird's-eye view is gained of the metropolis in the distance.

The *West London and Westminster Cemetery* is in Fulham Road, Brompton, and is well laid out, but offers no particular attraction in regard to its situation.

Abney Park Cemetery is situate at Stoke Newington, and is chiefly appropriated to the interment of Dissenters. Dr. Watts resided at Abney Park, the seat of his friend Sir Thomas Abney, for many years, and breathed his last in this secluded retreat. The house now included in the burial ground was the residence of this sacred poet, in memory of whom a statue by Bailey adorns the cemetery. A tradition prevails that the dishonoured remains of Oliver Cromwell at length found a tranquil resting-place in Abney Park.

The *City of London and Tower Hamlets Cemetery,* is located at South Grove, Mile End, near Victoria Park.

On the Surrey side of the water, the London Cemetery Company have a fine place of interment, called *Nunhead Cemetery,* situate at Nunhead, Peckham. The grounds are planted with great taste, many of the monuments are extremely beautiful and the chapels have considerable architectural merit.

As regards situation, however, the *Norwood Cemetery* (belonging to the South Metropolitan Company) at Lower Norwood, is the most advantageously placed of any of the cemeteries, covering a southern range of hills, which command extensive views of the neighbouring woodlands. The appearance of the tombs and headstones, ascending, as it were the grassy eminences, seen in the distance, is truly picturesque.

Besides those we have mentioned, other cemeteries of smaller dimensions have been constructed, but it is needless to mention these—indeed the whole subject of this chapter is one where expansion would be in bad taste. Briefly to call attention, not to enter into details, is the only way in which our mortuary grounds could be noticed in a work, where though the resources may be affluent, the space is limited.

CHAPTER XIII.

THE NEW PRISONS.

Several of the public prisons being situated in some of the most populous neighbourhoods of London we have, in the course of our metropolitan rambles, had occasion to notice them. There are, however, a few public gaols on the outskirts of the capital, of which a brief description is necessary. The *Model Prison*, Caledonian-road, Pentonville, covers about seven acres of ground, and is environed by high boundary walls. In 1840 the first stone was laid, and the edifice was completed under the superintendence of Major Jebb, at a cost of £85,000. The building will contain upwards of 500 prisoners. The cells, which are 13 feet long, 7 broad, and 9 high, are furnished with a metal basin containing water, a three-legged stool, a small table, a shaded gas-burner, and a hammock with mattress and blankets. In each cell there is a bell, which, when pulled, causes an iron tablet, inscribed with the number of the cell, to project on the wall to direct the officer on duty. The cells are warmed by hot air, and the ventilation is accomplished by means of perforated iron plates over the floor of the cell, which communicate with a lofty shaft. The prisoners never see each other, either at chapel or exercise. It is a prison where the separate system is strictly carried out, under the control of a commission appointed by government. Here the prisoners are subject to a course of instruction and probation anterior to their removal to a penal settlement. An opportunity is here presented to them of acquiring those handicrafts which will enable them to earn their subsistence abroad; and at the end of eighteen months they are sent to Van Diemen's Land. If their conduct has been good, they receive a ticket of leave at once, which is equivalent to liberty; if their behaviour has been indifferent they receive a probationary pass, which gives to them only a portion of their own earnings, besides imposing some very unpleasant restrictions; but if they misconduct themselves they are transported to Tasman's Peninsula, there to work in gangs without pay or liberty.

THE NEW CITY PRISON, UPPER HOLLOWAY

The works of this new House of Correction were commenced on the 25th of April, 1849, and the first stone was laid on the September of the same year by Sir James Duke, M.P. This handsome and massively-built prison is constructed on the radiating principle, having four wings radiating from one centre, with two other wings in front of the former. One of these wings is intended for the reception of juvenile offenders, and has a school-room attached; the other is for females, and includes a work-room or laundry. The four radiating wings constitute the male adult prison, to which are attached large work-rooms, and also the apparatus for lifting water. The wings are 12 cells, or about 100 feet in length, and three stories high; the corridors are 16 feet wide, and open upwards to the arched roof, with galleries leading to the upper cells. In dimensions the cells are 13 feet by 7, and are appropriately fitted up. They are warmed by hot water pipes laid under the corridor floors, and the ventilation is carried on by means of a shaft 146 feet high. The chapel is 76 feet by 40, and 48 feet to the apex of the roof, with two deep recesses for the females and juveniles, and affords sittings for 380 prisoners. The well-house contains one of Mr. Bessemer's disc pumps, and will be worked like a capstan, in a building 30 feet in diameter. The entire depth of the well is 319 feet, to the water 153 feet. Large tanks, constructed to hold 14,000 gallons of water, are placed over the front towers at a great elevation.

The whole extent of the frontage of the building next the Camden-road is composed of Kentish rag, with Caen stone dressings, having a bold outline. The style of the structure is castellated, its appearance resembling that of one of the strongholds of the Tudor age. The sides of the chapel and the back wing are of brick; the windows are enriched with Gothic arches exquisitely carved, and the parapets are coped with Caen stone. The roofs are flat, covered with asphalte upon plain tiles and iron rafters. Between the porter's lodge and the road stand, on either side of the entrance to the prison, two substantial Elizabethan mansions of red brick, partially inlaid with stone, having large gardens attached to them, destined for the residences of the governor and chaplain. The gaol is adapted for the reception of 60 females, 61 juveniles, and 283 male adults, making a total of 404, and contains 14 reception-cells, 18 punishment-cells, and 14 work-rooms, with the requisite offices and residences for the officials. It covers 10 acres of ground, and is surrounded by a brick wall 18 feet in height. This prison is built upon land originally purchased by the city for the erection of a cemetery during the ravages of the cholera in the year

1832. It is situate on the Camden-road, a little to the west of the Holloway-road, and is to serve the purpose of a House of Correction to the city of London. The design is by Mr. Bunning, the city architect, and the erection has been carried on under that gentleman's superintendence. The estimated cost of the structure has been laid down at £91,655. In May, 1852, it is calculated that this prison, which is really an architectural ornament to the Camden-road, will be completed.

CHAPTER XIV.

THE METROPOLITAN RAILWAYS.

The nineteenth century is remarkable as the age of railways, one of the most valuable discoveries of science, eclipsing in utility many of the famous inventions which preceded it, and realizing, what would have seemed to our forefathers, the wonders of enchantment. The earliest railways were those used in transporting the mineral products of the country from the mines to their place of disposal. The first locomotive was invented by Mr. George Stevenson, and the first locomotive on a public line for public purposes was essayed on the Stockton and Darlington Railway. The era of the road, however, dates from the Liverpool and Manchester line, an act for which was obtained in 1825, and which was opened in 1830. From this period, when it was found the new power would pay the capitalist, railways became more common. Between 1832 and 1836 all the lines from the metropolis, excepting only the Great Northern, were originated. Much opposition was experienced. The bill of the London and Birmingham was at first rejected by the legislature; the

London and Southampton was stopped in its works for want of capital; the London and Brighton had to fight its way against five competing companies; and the Eastern Counties presented to its shareholders a mournful spectacle of indifferent management, and continual misfortunes. In 1836 there prevailed a very strong feeling in favour of railways, which was followed by a panic. From this period till 1843 the interest remained very quiet, but in that year railways began to be again popular. The great railway mania followed, when railways from almost every place in the known world were projected, and speculators proposed to intersect the whole length and breadth of the kingdom with a network of railways. Everybody seemed in a hurry to get rich; the common channels of industry were insufficiently strewed with Pactolian sands for their avidity; they were not content, like their progenitors, to labour in the summer of their days, looking forward to a placid evening of retirement. Mammon had deluded their souls with another Philosopher's Stone, which though only iron, was to convert all that it touched into gold, and this new avatar of an ancient superstition was—the Railway. Daily were the public journals inundated with advertisements of railroads traversing sites where the traffic would be insufficient to keep a couple of coaches running, and where alone the exuberant fancy of a speculator could imagine that a railroad was a desideratum, and that its returns would yield a dividend of anything beyond 0 per cent. In those announcements common sense could only recognise fallacies propounded by the sharks of society for the extraction of capital from those good, easy, credulous John Bulls, who had more money than wit. The "dodge" was worked somewhat after the fashion of that dangerous tenure of Satan, the "Bottle Imp," the ultimate possessor of which was destined to be *l'ame condamné*; so the last holder of certain railway shares—he who fairly intended to retain them as an investment—was, when the bubble broke, fleeced to the bone. The magic word with the railway attorneys, sharebrokers, and speculators, was "premium;" and the art of puffing was so well-known, and so beautifully studied by those lucre-mongers, that shares in their individual undertakings were soon inflated to a fictitious value. Probably nine-tenths of the railway speculations which were at this time in the market, were never designed for any other purpose than to create premium for the emolument of their originators. Certain it is, folks were found to bite, who bought at a premium—sold at a premium; and thus the chaffering proceeded until the scheme was rejected by Parliament, or broke down from its own constitutional weakness, when the shares sunk like a plummet to the "lowest depth" below par, and their unlucky holders found that they had "paid too dearly for their whistle," the only parties benefited being the wily premium-hookers. Infatuated by the prospects of immense and immediate gain, patrons were found to countenance by their support and purse, every railway scheme that might be propounded, no matter how improbable of realization, no matter what were the antecedents of their needy originators. The columns of the newspapers were crowded with railway advertisements, and metamorphoses, stranger than ever we read of in Ovid, were effected by railway speculation. Men who literally could not number a second suit in their wardrobe, were through this new influence converted not only into large shareholders, but in many instances enabled to start an equipage; and more "esquires" sprung into existence than ever were legitimately created since the days of the Conqueror, and to have registered whom would have swelled the *Court Guide* to the dimensions of a quarto ledger. From the tranquil retreat of obscurity, adventurers suddenly emerged into glittering but dangerous celebrity, a flight which like that of Dædalus, was destined to be of brief duration, their wings unable to withstand the sun of truth. The press gave timely warning of the dangers to be apprehended, and endeavoured to caution the public off the rock of railway speculation; and the *Times* sounded the note of alarm so loudly and repeatedly, and so clearly separated the chaff from the grain, that the public confidence in the bubble schemes was shaken.

At length the legislature interposed, and the railway shams evaporated, the men of straw by whom they were created either subsiding into their native insignificance, or attenuating into phantoms which neither law nor its officers could touch.

But, as a leading journal has justly observed, the time of railway speculation is over, and the day of railway enterprise has begun. Railway communication in Great Britain and Ireland has advanced in so extraordinary a degree that every day (according to the *Times* newspaper) the locomotive engine passes over a distance nearly four and-a-half times the circumference of the globe! In 1850 the number of engines working on the railways was 2,436; the quantity of coke consumed by them within the year, 627,528 tons; the quantity of coal, 896,466 tons; the total distance run within the year, 40,161,850 miles; and the average distance per day, 110,333 miles. In 1850 no fewer than 6,464 miles of railway were under traffic.

Of the immense amount of capital embarked in the construction of those railways which have termini in the metropolis, we subjoin a detailed account, the figures composing which must be admitted to be great facts:—

London and North-Western	£6,073,114
London and South-Western	1,860,000
South-Eastern	4,306,478
Eastern Counties	2,821,790
London and Greenwich	993,000
London and Croydon	741,000
Great Western	7,957,800
London and Blackwall	1,078,851
London and Brighton	2,512,156

The passenger-station of the *London and North-Western*, or *Birmingham,* is in the rear of Euston-square, New-road, the gateway of which is esteemed the finest specimen of Grecian architecture in England. Its height is 70 feet, and the granite pillars are 8½ feet in diameter. The Euston-square station with its buildings covers 12 acres of ground. In the spring of 1849 a noble hall, built after the designs of Mr. Hardwick, at an outlay of £150,000, was opened. This magnificent apartment is 125 feet in length, 62 in width, and 64 in height, and is enriched with Ionic decorations. The goods and cattle-station is at Camden Town. The line from Birmingham to London was commenced in April, 1834, and opened in September, 1838. The chief stations beyond Birmingham are Crewe, Chester, Manchester, Liverpool, and Aberdeen.

In Duke-street, at the Surrey end of London Bridge, several important railways have their London termini. Of these the *Greenwich Railway,* which was commenced in 1834, was the initiative railway of London. It was opened as far as Deptford in February, 1836, and in December, 1838, the whole distance, 3¾ miles, was completed. It is entirely constructed on brick arches. William Shadbolt, Esq., is the chairman of this railway, which is now amalgamated with the South-Eastern.

The *North Kent Railway,* which extends from the London Bridge station to Gravesend and Rochester, is also incorporated with the South-Eastern. For about two miles of the journey it runs on the Greenwich line, whence it radiates to the right, traversing a long tunnel beneath Blackheath. Its chief stations are at Woolwich, Dartford, Gravesend, and Rochester.

The *South-Eastern Railway* was originally styled, pursuant to its charter of incorporation in 1836, the *London and Dover Railway,* but that title, writes Bradshaw, "was subsequently changed to its present designation, with the view of indicating the more extended objects sought to be attained by its promoters, viz., not only the opening a certain and expeditious communication to Dover and other towns and districts on the south-east coast, but also that of facilitating the communication between London and the continent of Europe." In 1844 extensions of this line were obtained, including the branches to Canterbury, Ramsgate, Margate, and Folkestone, and subsequently branches to Tunbridge Wells, Minster, Deal, and Hastings, were authorised. In 1846 the company obtained permission from parliament to construct the North Kent line. The total length of the South-Eastern line, including the leased lines, is 296½ miles, the entire portion of which is not yet in operation. This railway was opened in February, 1844.

Another of the important railways which finds a terminus at London Bridge is the *London, Brighton, and South Coast,* which extends from London to Brighton, thence radiating on the east to Hastings, and on the west to Colchester and Portsmouth, having branches to Epsom, Horsham, Newhaven, Eastbourne, and Hailsham. In 1846 the London and Croydon Company were amalgamated by act of Parliament with the London and Brighton.

The *London and South-Western Railway* was at first known as the London and Southampton, but, upon its line being carried beyond the latter town, it received its present appellation. The line was opened partially in 1838, and in May, 1840, all the way to Southampton. Since it was originally planned its operation has been greatly extended, and its ramifications now include Kew, Richmond, Kingston, Hampton Court, Windsor, Guildford, Southampton, Portsmouth, Gosport, Salisbury, Winchester, and Dorchester. Until 1848 the terminus for passengers was at Nine Elms, Vauxhall, now converted into the goods station. The terminus has been extended to the Waterloo-road, but this removal has involved a great sacrifice of property, and the Westminster-road and other leading thoroughfares have been rendered unsightly by the erection of massive arches of iron, brick, and stone. For all practical purposes the station at Nine Elms was sufficiently near to town, and we are glad to find that projects for bringing other railway termini into the centre of the metropolis have languished and fallen to the ground for want of encouragement.

The terminus of the *London and Blackwall Railway* is in London-street, Fenchurch-street. This line, which is four miles in length, was opened the whole distance in 1840. The prospect viewed by the traveller on this line is singular, being chiefly composed of the top stories of houses and chimney-pots, until the purer air of Poplar is breathed. This, like the Greenwich railway, is a popular one, much of its traffic being of a pleasure kind. The Blackwall terminus is at Brunswick Wharf, whence steam-boats in connexion with the company convey the passengers to Woolwich and Gravesend. A branch at Bow connects this line with the Eastern Counties, and at Stepney a branch line unites it with the Birmingham Junction Railway.

The station of the *Eastern Counties Railway* is in Shoreditch, to which ungainly neighbourhood it is a great improvement, consisting of a spacious forecourt, and a series of elegant buildings in the Italian style of architecture. In 1843 the line was opened to Colchester, and in 1844 the North-Eastern Company, whose line extended to Cambridge and Norwich, were incorporated with the Eastern Counties. This now comprehensive line of railway has stations at Colchester, Ipswich, Newmarket, Cambridge, Wisbeach, Peterborough, Ely, Norwich, and Yarmouth. At Stratford a branch line runs to North Woolwich, a station fitted up with much elegance and taste, whence a steam-boat carries the passengers to Woolwich.

The station of the *Great Western Railway* is in Praed-street, Paddington, in the immediate vicinity of Westbourne-terrace, and those splendid and fashionable rows of houses which have, within the last few years, covered the fields between Paddington and Bayswater. This railway, on which the broad-gauge principle is adopted, was projected by Brunel, the eminent engineer, and was opened as far as Maidenhead in July, 1839, and to Bristol in June, 1841. The Box Tunnel, which is 3,168 feet long, is on this line. Branches to Gloucester, Cheltenham, Oxford, and other places, and several leased lines, are included in the appendages of the Great Western Railway. Among the leading stations may be named Windsor, Reading, Oxford, Swindon, Gloucester, Cheltenham, Bath, Bristol, Bridgewater, Taunton, and Exeter.

The *Great Northern*, the most recently constructed of the metropolitan railways, "is an amalgamation of the London and York and Direct Northern,"* and was incorporated about 1846, for a line from London to York through Peterborough, Newark, and Retford, with a loop line from Peterborough through Boston and Lincoln, reuniting with the chief line at Retford. Its proposed length was 275 miles, which extensions recently granted have augmented to 335½ miles. Several leased lines belong to this company, which is still increasing its acquisitions. In 1850 this line was opened from London to Peterborough, the metropolitan station, only a temporary one, being in Maiden-lane, King's-cross. The permanent London terminus is to occupy that extensive and commanding site of ground at King's-cross facing the New-road, which was lately covered by the Fever and Small Pox Hospitals. The buildings are in progress, and another year will, probably, witness their completion.

Before dismissing the subject of railways, we must add a few statistics, which show not only the vast amount of traffic which they absorb, but also their rapidly-increasing popularity. In the year ending the 30th of June, 1850, there were in the United Kingdom 6,308 miles of railway in operation; over this distance had travelled, by the first class carriages, 7,734,728 passengers; by the second class, 24,226,669; by the third class, 15,547,749; by the Parliamentary class, 19,249,974; and by the mixed trains, 81,055; making an astounding total of 66,840,175 railway passengers in the course of the year. It is worthy of notice that the travellers in 1850 nearly doubled in amount those of 1845, the number recorded for that year, closing at the 30th of June, being only 33,791,253. The entire receipts from passengers of every description for the year 1850 were £6,465,575: 11*s.* 10*d.*; and from goods, cattle, mail, and similar sources of revenue, £5,942,276: 18*s.* 8*d.*, yielding a total of £12,407,852 : 10*s.* 6*d.*; the receipts for the year 1845 being £6,209,714.

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* *Railway Manual.*

Notwithstanding the vast augmentation in the rate of transit which railways have accomplished, and the increased facilities of commerce which they undoubtedly afford, by many they are still deemed to be in their infancy, and we are taught to look forward to an era compared with which, the present feats of railway speed will appear as tardy as the movements of the York coach a century back seem to the existing generation. That the railway system is remote from perfection cannot be doubted, when accidents fraught with fearful sacrifice to life and limb are of frequent occurrence, even on the best regulated lines. It will be a great point when railway travelling has attained a high character, as well for safety as for speed; when the inmate of a railway carriage can have no possible misgivings of a safe arrival at his destination. When this state of things shall come to pass, it may be considered as the golden epoch of railways, which it is to be hoped will, in the course of time, achieve the noblest objects of civilization, by promoting not only commercial but *social* intercourse among all nations of the earth.

CHAPTER XV.

THE CITY COMPANIES AND THEIR HALLS.

In ancient times the city of London had only one collective trading company, distinguished as the *guilda mercatoria,* but as the population increased, and the trades became more numerous, distinctive companies were formed, and charters of incorporation obtained, by which exclusive privileges were conferred on the freemen. The city guilds, or companies, though branches of the corporation, have, individually, a separate government, and enjoy peculiar liberties and advantages in virtue of their charters. The affairs of the various companies are under the direction of a master, warden, assistants, clerks, and other officials. To the greater part of these companies a hall is attached, for the transaction of business and for the occasional celebration of banquets, festal entertainments which are still tenaciously observed by the citizens. The city dinners are characterised by some remarkable observances. At many of them the loving-cup makes the circuit of the guests. A cup and cover elaborately chased, either of gold or silver, is placed before the Lord Mayor, or master, while the master of the ceremonies, in a stentorian tone, exclaims, "The master bids you all welcome, and greets you all in the loving-cup." The beverage in these costly vessels is spiced wine, and as each receives the cup his next neighbour rises, removes the cover, and holds the cup till the quaffer has finished, when the like friendly office is rendered to himself. For the maintenance of these festivals, funds are expressly set apart, and the late Mr. Thwaites, wishing to perpetuate good-fellowship, bequeathed £30,000 to the company of Clothworkers, one moiety for charities, and the other to be appropriated to feasting.

Of the ninety-one city companies which London could once enumerate some few are extinct, and others are without liveries and halls. Twelve are styled, *par excellence*, the great companies, and the following is their order of precedence:—Mercers, Grocers, Drapers, Fishmongers, Goldsmiths, Skinners, Merchant Tailors, Haberdashers, Salters, Ironmongers, Vintners, and Clothworkers.

The *Mercers' Company* was incorporated in the seventeenth year of the reign of Richard II., but had previously existed by prescription. Several sovereigns and princes, and many illustrious noblemen have belonged to this company, as well as sixty-two lord mayors, including Whittington and Gresham. The armorial bearings of the Mercers are represented by a bust of the Virgin Mary, sculptured over the gateway of their hall in Cheapside. It was anciently the custom when a member of this company was raised to the civic chair to have, as a part of the city pageant to Westminster, a chariot richly decorated, in which was seated a beautiful young girl, most magnificently attired, with her hair streaming in ringlets over her neck and shoulders, and a crown upon her head. When the festivities of the day closed she was rewarded with a liberal benefaction, and the costly garments in which she personated a queen. At the banquets of this company a song was formerly sung, in which the priority of the guild was exultingly alluded to. The opening verse will convey the spirit of this composition:—

"Advance the Virgin,—lead the van,
Of all that are in London free,
The mercer is the foremost man
That founded a society.
Of all the trades that London grace,
We are the first in time and place."

The hall of the Mercers in Cheapside stands upon the site of the hospital of St. Thomas of Acons. This hospital was founded by Thomas Fitz-Theobald de Helles, and his wife Agnes, the sister of Thomas à Becket, and upon the very spot where that proud but unhappy prelate was born, and it was named Acons after the supposed birthplace of à Becket's mother. On the suppression of religious houses the hospital was purchased by the Mercers, and converted into a chapel for the company. The edifice was consumed by the fire of 1666, and the existing hall and chapel rose in its place. To this wealthy association belong a moiety of the Royal Exchange and Gresham College, St. Paul's and Mercers' Schools, Whittington's College at Highgate, Trinity Hospital at Greenwich, Stepney Hospital, the patronage of the Golden Lectureship (filled by the Rev. H. Melville), and other valuable appointments.

Grocers' Hall is in Grocers' Hall court, Poultry, its rear stretching to Princes-street, and agreeably shaded by lofty trees. It covers the site of the mansion of the Lords Fitzwalter. The present edifice has been new-fronted and beautifully ornamented. Among the portraits which decorate the hall are those of the Earl of Chatham and the right hon. William Pitt, who were both members of this company. The term *grocer* was originally used to distinguish a dealer in goods in *gross* quantities in opposition to the mere retailer. The more ancient designation of this company was that of the *pepperers,* on account of pepper being the chief article in which a grocer dealt.

> " Mercibus hic Italis, mutat sub sola recenti
> *Rugosum piper* et pallentis grana cymini."*

The fraternity were first incorporated as grocers by the charters of Edward III. in 1345. A pepperer was still not unseldom a separate business, and conducted as such till 1559. In that year a quantity of pepper having been seized in a Spanish vessel, was purchased from the queen by certain exclusive dealers in that article. The grocers endeavoured to undersell the pepperers by importing pepper on their own account, which caused the latter to petition the queen that no pepper might be imported for three years, which would enable them to keep their engagements with her majesty; and to induce her to comply with their prayer, they promised not to raise the price of pepper above three shillings in the pound.

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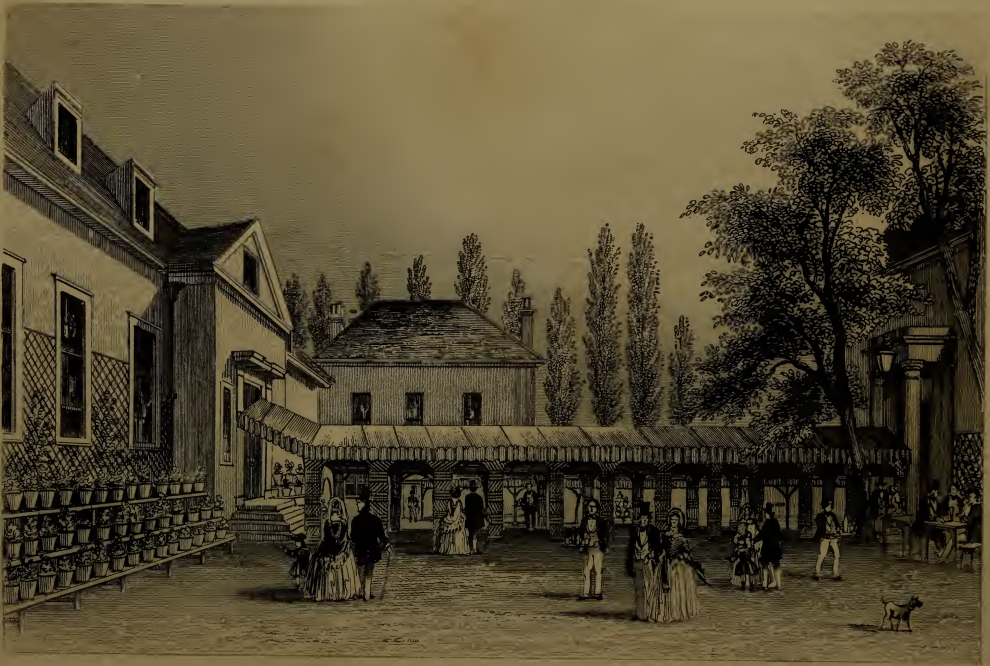
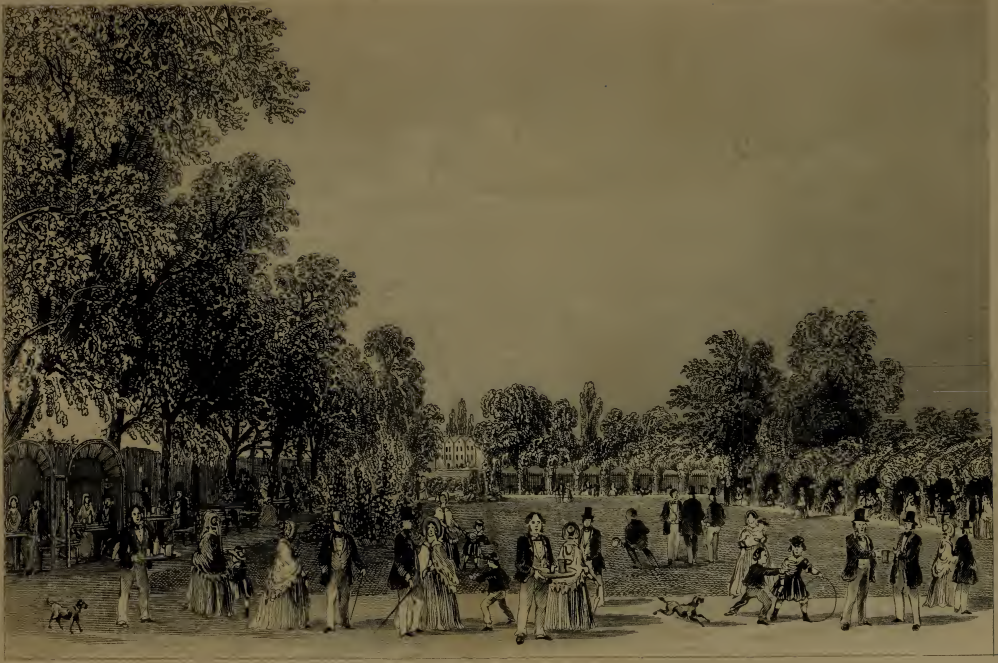
* Persius.

At the commencement of the differences between Charles I. and the parliament, Grocers' Hall was appropriated to the sitting of the parliamentary committee; and here the business of the Bank of England was transacted, and its accounts kept, from the time of its incorporation till 1734, when it was removed to Threadneedle-street. The garden of the hall was, until the middle of the last century, open as a public promenade for the citizens. This company was more injured by the fire of London than any of the other civic guilds, being left in fact without any revenue by this catastrophe, and but for the personal contributions for the restoration of the hall, might have ceased to hold rank among the corporate bodies of London. This company possesses several exhibitions to the universities, and maintains a number of free-schools and almshouses in various parts of England.

Drapers' Hall stands in Throgmorton-street, on the ground once occupied by the mansion of Cromwell, Earl of Essex, the favourite of Henry VIII. Cromwell's house was built on the site of several tenements belonging to the priory of St. Augustin, but the garden not being sufficiently extensive for the ambitious minister, he caused the fences of the adjoining residences to be removed 22 feet northward, without asking the consent of the owners, and enclosed the whole with a lofty brick wall. Among the sufferers was the father of Stowe, the city historian, who had a garden contiguous to Cromwell's, with a house close to its southern paling. This house was raised from the ground, and being placed on rollers, was removed back without the knowledge of the proprietor, who could obtain no redress. After the fall of Cromwell, his mansion was purchased by the Drapers. The existing building contains a spacious quadrangle, enclosing an open court, which has a broad piazza or ambulatory around it, and exhibits several arches, enriched with lions' heads and other sculptural ornaments, and pilasters. The buildings are principally composed of brick, but the front and entrance into Throgmorton-street are elaborately embellished with stone



THE GARDENS, HIGHBURY BARN TAVERN.



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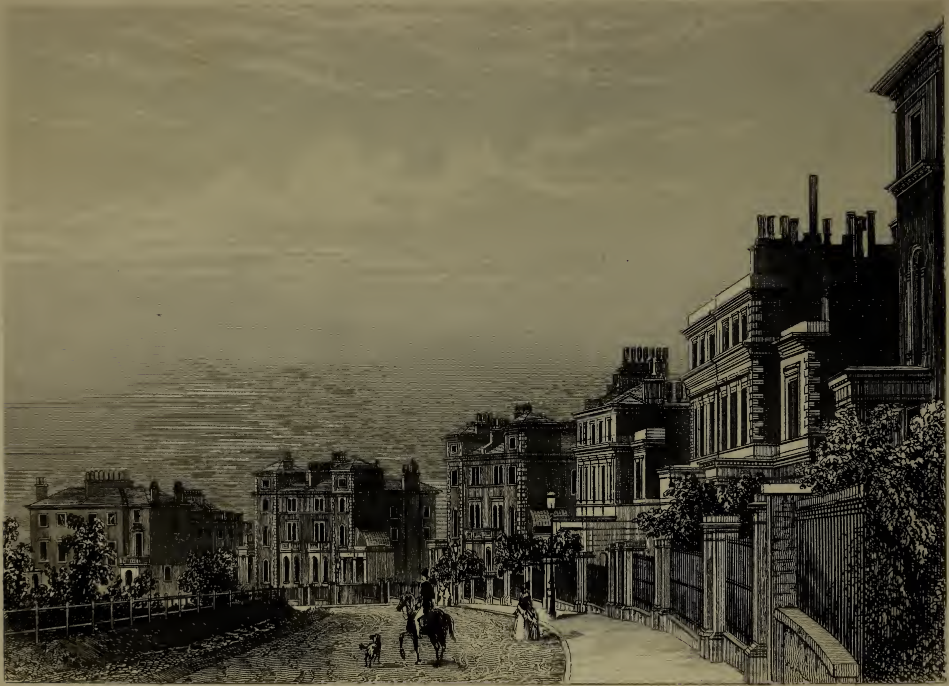

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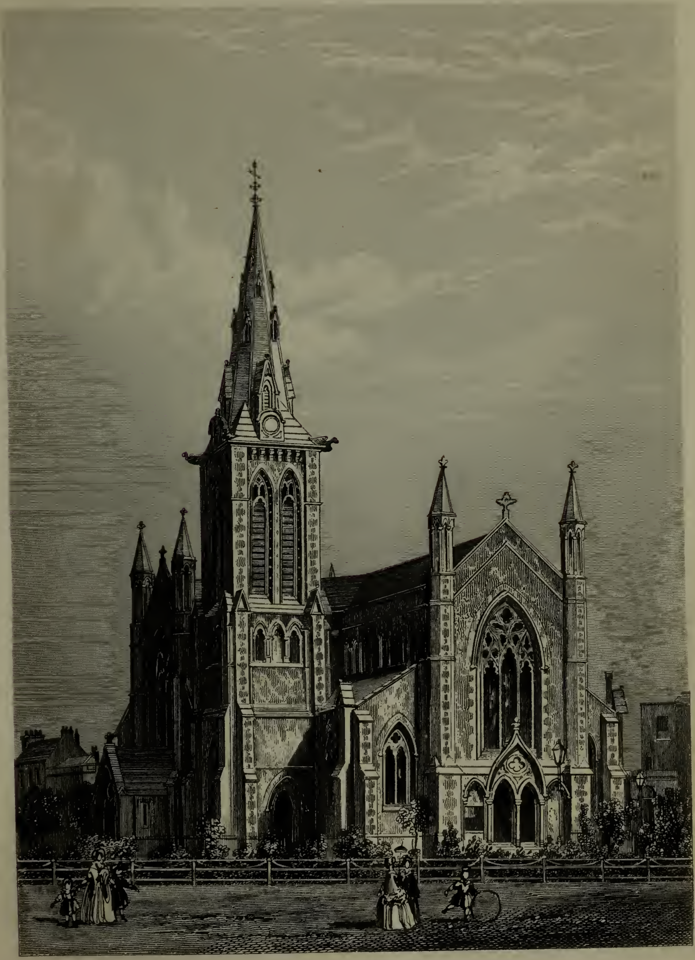

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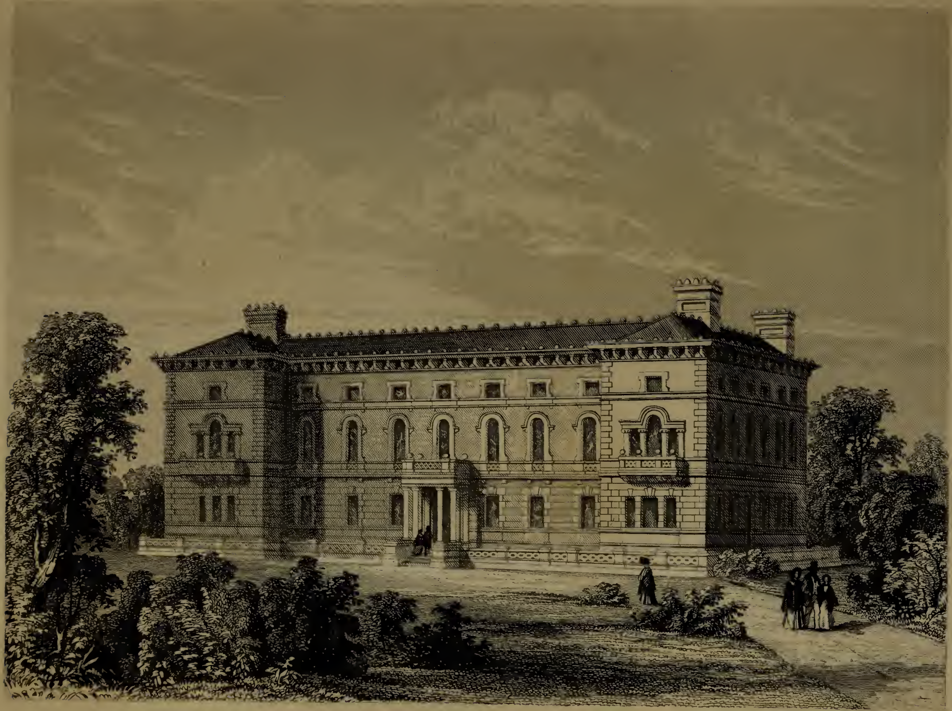
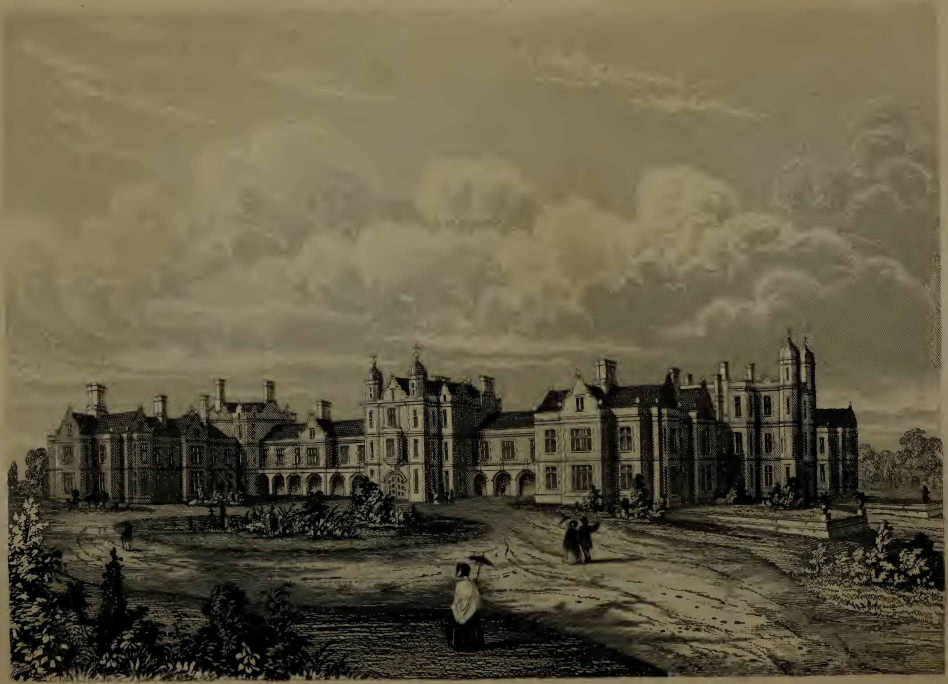
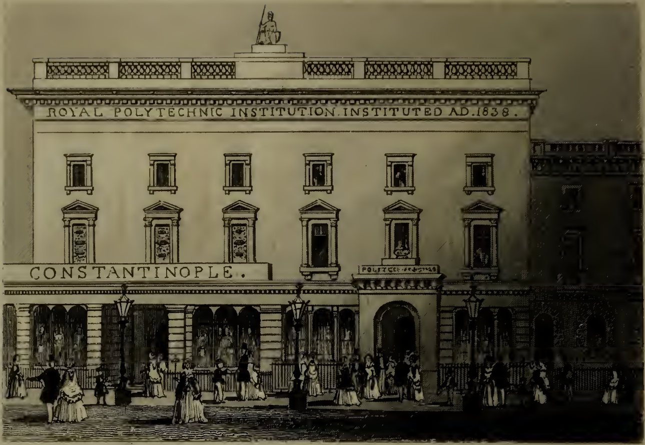


THE ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL
HAVERSTOCK HILL HAMPSTEAD



THE INFANT ORPHAN ASYLUM, WANSTEAD.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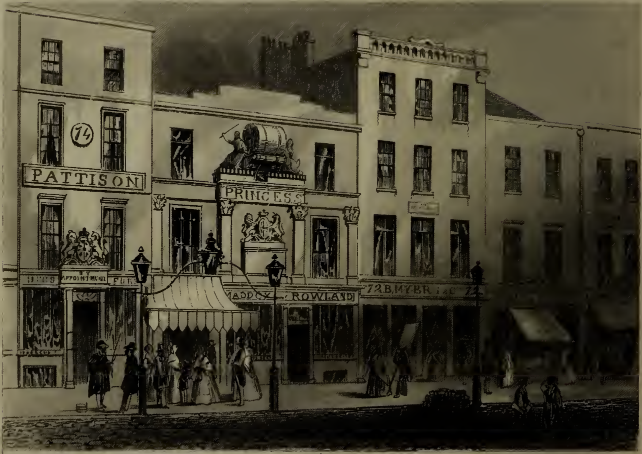
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PATTISON
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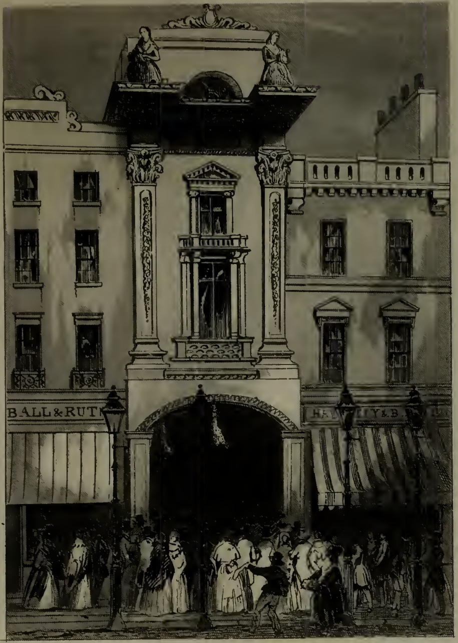
PRINCESS' THEATRE.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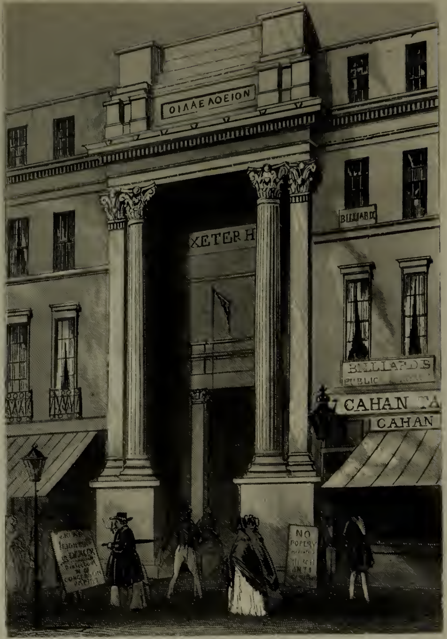
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ornaments. The hall, properly so named, occupied the east side of the quadrangle; the ascent to it is by an elegantly carved staircase. Its walls are graced with portraits of all our sovereigns since the revolution, and some years back the large sum of £20,000 was expended in decorating and restoring this hall. The company is honourably distinguished for the large amount which it annually devotes to charitable purposes.

The new hall of the *Fishmongers' Company* occupies the south-west angle of the north approach to London Bridge, towards which it exhibits an elevation of more than 160 feet in length. It was built in 1833, in place of the old hall in Thames-street, which was taken down in 1828, to facilitate the formation of approaches to the new bridge. In consequence of the great altitude of the bridge roadway, a sub-structure of granite platform to this hall was formed. An arcade, sustaining a terrace, excludes from view the chief entrance to the fireproof warehouses, which extend under the whole of the building. Fishmongers' Hall is built in the Grecian-Ionic style of architecture. Its principal approach is from Adelaide-place, through a noble hall communicating with an extensive corridor, divided from the grand staircase by a columnar screen of polished Aberdeen granite. At the head of the central flight of stairs there is a fine statue of a celebrated member of this company, Sir William Walworth, who is represented in the act of giving a *quietus* to Wat Tyler with his dagger, an event which is commemorated in the following verse inscribed on the pedestal:—

"Brave Walworth, Knight, Lord Maior y^{t} slew
Rebellious Tyler in his alarmes,
The King therefore did give in lieu
The dagger to the Citye's arms.
In the 4th year of Richard II.; anno domini, 1381."

The upper part of the staircase is adorned with Sienna scagliola marble columns and pilasters, and illuminated by windows of stained glass. From the centre of the landing-place is the chief approach to the great banqueting-hall, and at either end a door conducts to the other leading apartments. The banqueting-hall occupies the centre of the east front of the structure. It is 70 feet long, 38 feet wide, and 33 feet high. The room is embellished with the armorial bearings of the benefactors and past prime wardens of the company; whilst at one end of the hall the royal arms appear in stained glass, those of the company being at the opposite extremity. The arms of the city and of the twelve leading companies are emblazoned in front of the music-gallery. The door on the right of the landing-place leads to the court dining-room, whence a fine view of the river and the Kent and Surrey hills is gained. This magnificent room is 45 feet in length, 30 feet in breadth, and 20 feet in height, and it is most superbly furnished. New Fishmongers' Hall was built after the designs of Mr. Henry Roberts.

The fishmongers were anciently divided into two companies, the salt fishmongers incorporated in 1433, and the stock fishmongers in 1509. They were united in their present form by Henry VIII. in 1536. The fishmongers, previous to the union of the two companies, are said by Stowe to have had six halls; two in Thames-street, two in Fish-street, and two in Old Fish-street. Upon the amalgamation of the salt and stock fishmongers, their numerous halls were reduced to one, the immediate precursor of the superb edifice which we have just described. The old hall, which was constructed by Sir Christopher Wren, was situated in Thames-street, some 150 yards west of the ancient bridge, and commanded a fine view of the river. Among the remarkable relics which belong to this company, are the funereal pall of Sir William Walworth, richly embroidered with gold, and a plan of the splendid pageant exhibited on his inauguration as Lord Mayor in 1380. The dagger which forms the first quarter of the city's arms does not, as inferred in the legendary inscription of the Fishmongers, commemorate the weapon with which Walworth deprived Wat Tyler, the traitor, of his life, it having figured in the armorial bearings of London for ages antecedent to the time of Sir William, and being intended to represent the sword of St. Paul, the patron of the corporation. Motto—"All worship be to God."

The *Goldsmiths' Company* was incorporated by Richard II., in 1392, and subsequently, in 1427, they received a charter of incorporation from Edward III., in consideration of the sum of ten marks, and he conferred on them the privilege of purchasing an estate of twenty pounds per annum, in mortmain, for the support of their decayed members, rights which were confirmed in 1394 by Richard II., for the sum of twenty marks. In 1463 Edward IV. granted this body the privilege of "inspecting and regulating all gold and silver wares, not only in this city, but in all other parts of the kingdom," with the power of punishing all offenders concerned in working adulterated gold and silver. This exclusive right has been confirmed by subsequent statutes, and the company are now assay-masters to all England. All gold and silver plate must have its conformity to the standard fineness certified by the marks of the company, which consist of a lion's head erased, the figure of a woman designed for Britannia, and a mark denoting the year. In addition to these, the article must be inscribed with the two first letters of the surname of the worker. To imitate these marks is felony, and to sell without them is a misdemeanour, incurring the forfeiture of the article sold. A jury is also yearly chosen from this company to assay some pieces of every sort of money coined at the Mint, which are taken out indiscriminately from the mass, and kept under lock and key till the trial.

The companies of goldsmiths and fishmongers formerly disputed strongly for precedency, and carried on the quarrel with such fiery zeal, that the lord mayor and aldermen were compelled to expel some of the most turbulent from the city, and to deprive them of their freedom. In 1239 the Goldsmiths had a still more desperate contention with the Company of Merchant Tailors. Each party was joined in the quarrel by another company, they assembled together in the streets, nightly and in armour. On one of these occasions there were more than 500 belligerents, and the encounter was so violent that several were killed and wounded in the affray. The sheriffs interfered and captured some of the rioters. On the following Friday thirty of the offenders were tried at the Old Bailey, of whom thirteen were convicted and hanged.

The goldsmiths were the first bankers in London, on account of their reputed wealth, on which large drains were made during the civil wars in the time of Charles I., and until the Revolution. One of the most distinguished members and benefactors of this company was Sir Hugh Middleton, who introduced the water of the New River, and who bequeathed a share in this grand undertaking for the relief of decayed goldsmiths, a legacy the increased value of which yields a very ample revenue in aid of charitable purposes.

This company is under the government of a prime warden, three other wardens, and a court of assistants. Its motto is, "Justitia Virtutum Regina."

The hall of the goldsmiths is in Foster-lane, Cheapside, in the rear of the General Post Office, and near the church of St. John Zachary's. It stands upon the site of the ancient hall, which was a structure of smooth briick, with a spacious quadrangle paved with freestone. The new Goldsmiths' Hall, erected in 1833 after the designs of Mr. Hardwicke, stands upon the site of the old hall, and is a handsome square edifice of noble proportions and of massive execution. The centre is composed of six Corinthian columns, sustaining an entablature surmounted by a rich cornice. The five centre windows have balconies, over which are sculptured the arms of the company, and other appropriate ornaments. The interior presents a happy union of magnificence and taste, and there are no city halls which surpass the Goldsmiths'. The only thing to be regretted is, that a building so superb should not occupy a more commanding locality, for in its present position it is completely isolated from general observation—being in fact a palace in a by-street.

Skinners' Hall on Dowgate-hill, is a handsome structure of the Ionic order, containing some very grand apartments, the hall-room being wainscoted with oak, and the parlour with cedar. Anterior to the erection of the Mansion House, Skinners' Hall was frequently the official residence of the Lord Mayors of London; and the general courts of the new East India Company were held here prior to the junction of the two bodies in 1720.

The Skinners' Company was incorporated in 1327 by Edward III., under the title of the "Master, and Wardens, Brothers, and Sisters of the Guild or Fraternity of the Skinners of London, to the honour of God, and the precious body of our Lord Jesus Christ." At this period they were divided into two fraternities, one at St. Mary, Bethlehem, the other at St. Mary, Spital, but they were united by Richard II., who gave them a new charter in the 18th year of his reign. This company was eminently prosperous in early times, when sables, lucerns, and other costly furs were worn in England for tippets, which were esteemed princely ornaments, of which Henry Lane, in a letter to Hackluyt the editor of the *English Voyages* in 1567, thus writes:—"It was a great pity but it should be renewed, especially in courts and among magistrates, not only for the restoring of an old worshipful company, but also because they be for our climate, wholesome, delicate, grave, and comely, expressing dignity, comforting age, and of long continuance, and better with small cost to be preserved than those new silks, shaggs and rags wherein a great part of the wealth of the land is hastily consumed." It was customary for the Skinners to walk in procession through the streets of London on Corpus Christi day, each year, carrying, writes Stowe, "more than one hundred torches of wax, costly garnished, burning light; and above two hundred clerks and priests in surplices and copes, singing; after which came the sheriffs' servants, the clerks of the compters, chaplains for the sheriffs, the mayor's serjeants, the lord mayor and aldermen in their robes of state, and the Skinners in their best liveries."

In the court-room there is a portrait of Sir Andrew Judd, a member of the company, who was mayor in 1550, and the founder of a grammar-school of some repute at Tunbridge in Kent. In the lapse of time the rental of the land bequeathed for its maintenance has increased so much as to give the company most ample funds for charitable purposes. Part of these lands which are in the parish of St. Pancras, were leased to Mr. Decimus Burton, the architect, and are now covered with houses which bring a vast augmentation of income. The name of the founder of this trust is perpetuated in *Judd-street,* and of his native town in *Tunbridge-place; Burton-crescent,* named after the architect, and other contiguous streets, also cover the ground of the company.

The motto borne by this company is—"To God only be all glory."

The *Merchant Tailors' Company,* anciently styled "Taylors and Linen Armourers," was incorporated in 1466 by Edward IV. This company was re-incorporated by Henry VIII., who was a member thereof, in 1503, under the name of "The Master and Wardens of the Merchant Tailors of the Fraternity of St. John the Baptist in the City of London." It is one of the most affluent, and more royal and noble personages have been enrolled in this than any other city guild, many kings and noblemen having received the freedom of the Merchant Tailors. Among the distinguished members of this company Sir John Hawkwood, a native of Sible Hedingham, Essex, shines conspicuously. He was apprenticed to a tailor in London, but before his servitude expired he was impressed for a soldier, and sent into France, where he displayed so much gallantry, under Edward III., especially at the battle of Poictiers, that he was promoted from the ranks to a captaincy, and received the honour of knighthood. On the peace of 1360 the brave knight became a leader of one of those bands of military adventurers called "Late

Comers." Barnabas, the brother of the Duke of Milan, then at war with Mantua, invited Sir John Hawkwood to his assistance, and he achieved such distinction by his prowess, that Barnabas bestowed upon him his daughter in marriage, with a munificent estate. Subsequently Sir John aided Pope Gregory XII. in recovering the revolted cities of Provence, a service for which he was rewarded with the governorship of four towns. He next attached himself to the Florentine army, and dying in 1394, "after infinite victories obtained, and an incomparable renown amongst all men," was buried with high honours in the great church of Santa Croce at Florence, and a monument raised to his memory by order of the senate. Sir Richard Blackwell, a fellow-apprentice with Sir John Hawkwood, and a member of the Merchant Tailors' Company, was also a gallant commander, and knighted for his services by Edward III. The Merchant Tailors' School, in Suffolk-lane, Thames-street, to which we have before made reference, is one of the most eminent educational establishments in England, having been presided over by many masters of literary celebrity, and sent forth scholars who have rendered themselves conspicuous in the annals of their country. This company expends more than £2,000 annually on charitable purposes.

Merchant Tailors' Hall, in Threadneedle-street, is considered the largest hall in London. It is a noble structure of brick and stone, supported by stone pillars of the Tuscan order. The hall contains portraits of illustrious members of the company, and the grant of the charter by Henry VII. The motto of the company is "Concordia parva res crescunt."

The *Haberdashers' Company,* or Hosiers, as they were formerly called, were incorporated by Henry VI. in 1447; a charter confirmed by Henry VII. in 1501, when the company was styled "Merchant Haberdashers." The haberdashers were also called milliners, or milainers, on account of their dealings in articles imported from Milan. It is probable that they were not numerous, since in the reign of Henry VI. there was not more than a dozen haberdashers' shops in the whole city. Their great increase during the reign of Elizabeth may be inferred from the complaints made against them, that the whole street from Westminster was crowded with them, and that their shops made so "gay an appearance as to seduce persons to extravagant expenditure." In these days of plate-glass and fine shops, the haberdashers are still liable to have the charge preferred against them of tempting the fair sex to make too profuse an outlay. The business of the haberdasher was not, however, limited to the lighter articles of a lady's wardrobe, as at present, but extended to the sale of daggers, swords, knives, spurs, glasses, dials, tables, balls, cards, puppets, inkhorns, tooth-picks, fine earthen pots, saltcellers, spoons, tin dishes; and even mouse-traps, birdcages, shoeing-horns, and lanthorns, contributed to that gay appearance which the haberdashers' shops are said to have made in the reign of the "Maiden Queen."

Haberdashers' Hall is situate at the western end of Gresham-street. The company is affluent, and expends nearly £4,000 in educational and charitable purposes. Robert Aske, a member of this guild, founded the Haberdashers' Hospital, in Pitfield-street, Hoxton, for the maintenance of 20 poor single freemen, and also for giving a free education to 20 boys, the sons of poor freemen. For this, and for other beneficent objects, Mr. Aske bequeathed £20,000. Mr. William Adams, another member, founded a free grammar-school, and almshouses, at Newport, Shropshire, and Mr. William Jones, a third member, also left £18,000 to this body to be expended in charity.

The motto of the Haberdashers' Company, is "Serve and Obey."

Although the *Salters' Company* received the grant of a livery from Richard II. in 1394, they were not fully incorporated till 1558. The trade of a salter, or drysalter, consists in the sale of logwood, cochineal, potashes, and almost every sort of chemical preparation.

Sir John Salter, a generous benefactor of this company, who died in 1605, by a curious provision in his will, required that the beadle and servants of the guild should attend divine service at St. Magnus church, London-bridge, the first week in October, and afterwards knock upon his grave-stone with sticks or staves, three times each person, and say, "How do you do, brother Salter? I hope you are well."

Salters' Hall, at the back of St. Swithin's church, stands in Oxford-court, St. Swithin's-lane, on the site of the original mansion of the earls of Oxford, and near the ancient residence of Empson and Dudley, the unlucky parasites of Henry VII. The present hall is the fourth that has been erected for their company. It was rebuilt by Mr. Henry Carr, and was opened in May, 1827. The portico is formed of four Ionic columns, sustaining an entablature, surmounted by the armorial bearings of the Salters. The internal decorations are marked by correct and elegant taste, and in the court-room is preserved a curious bill of fare (framed and glazed), of a very economical dinner given to fifty persons of the company of Salters, in 1506. The whole cost of the dinner—wood, water, coals, and cook's wages, amounted to only £1 13*s.* 2½*d.* The banquet comprehended 36 chickens, charged 4*d.*; a swan and 4 geese, 7*s.*; 9 rabbits and 6 quails, 4 breasts of veal and sixpennyworth of bacon. Upon this occasion only 3½ gallons of wine were allowed to the entire party.

The expenditure of this company in charity is considerable. The singularly appropriate motto of the Salters is, "Sal sapit omnia."

The *Ironmongers' Company*, incorporated in 1464, by Henry IV., were originally called *ferones;* and during the middle ages combined the occupations of merchant, factor, and retailer. The Ironmongers are a wealthy body, holding large estates, both in their own right and in trust for several donors, under whose wills they appropriate nearly £2,000 yearly to charitable uses. They receive the interest or profits of £26,000, bequeathed to them by Mr. Thomas Betton, a Turkey merchant, in 1724, under the special trust of employing one moiety of the said profits perpetually in the redemption of British subjects from captivity in Barbary, Turkey, and other Moorish countries; and the other moiety to be equally shared between the poor of the company, and the several schools within the bills of mortality. The Ironmongers' Hospital, in Kingsland-road, said to have cost £12,000, was erected from funds supplied by Sir Robert Geffryes, who filled the civic chair in 1680.

Ironmongers' Hall, on the north side of Fenchurch-street, was raised in 1748, upon the site of three halls which had preceded it. The front is of Portland stone, and the basement story is rusticated with a large arched doorway in the centre. The state-room is remarkably spacious and magnificent, and its walls are covered with the portraits of deceased benefactors.

The motto of this company is "God is our strength."

The *Vintners' Company*, or Vintonners, was incorporated by Edward III. in 1340, by the name of the "Wine Tonners," and confirmed by Henry VI. in 1436. This company formerly consisted of two kinds of traders, the vinetarii, or importers of, and wholesale dealers in wine; and the tabanarii, or taverners, who kept the taverns and cellars, and sold wine by retail. In 1426 great complaints were preferred against both classes of sellers for adulterating their wines; and Sir John Rainwell, the Lord Mayor, having caused some suspected quantities to be examined, found them so much adulterated, that he ordered one hundred-and-fifty butts to be poured into the kennel. To correct such abuses, Henry VI., in the charter which he granted the company, caused a proviso to be inserted, which directed that the company should yearly appoint "four persons of the most sufficient, most true, and most cunning of the same craft, that held no tavern," to be sworn before the Mayor, to see that genuine wines only were sold, and at such prices as they should determine. The descendants of the tavern-keepers are, we fear, no better than their ancestors, many of them deeming this injunction "more honoured in the breach than the observance." In the reign of Edward VI. these taverns, or wine-cellars were limited to forty in the city of London, and three in Westminster; the price of Gascoigne, Guienne, and French wines was restricted to eightpence per gallon; Rochelle to fourpence; and no sort of wine was to exceed a shilling a gallon. One of the valuable privileges of vintners is that of being able to sell wine and spirits without a licence from the magistrates.

Among the liberal benefactors of this company, Mr. Benjamin Kenton merits a passing line. Originally poor, and of very humble extraction, he amassed £100,000 in his business as a vintner. Dying in 1800, he bequeathed £65,000 for charitable purposes, including £2,000 to the general fund of the Vintners' Company, and £2,500 for rebuilding the Vintners' Almshouses at Mile End.

Vintners' Hall, near Anchor-lane, in Upper Thames-street, rebuilt by Sir Christopher Wren, is a very handsome edifice, with a large iron gate fronting the street, hung upon columns, wreathed with grapes and vine leaves, and a Bacchus upon three tuns upon each each pillar. The interior of the hall is elegant, and behind it is a small garden. Over the fire-place of the court-room there is a curious picture of St. Martin, the patron saint of this company, dividing his cloak with the beggar. According to the ancient legend, the saint had been out riding, on a cold winter's day, and met so many poor creatures, shivering for want of apparel, that he parted with his articles of clothing one after the other, till on reaching the gates of Amiens he had only his cloak left. Perceiving a mendicant standing by the gate, of still more pitiable appearance than those he had hitherto relieved, the compassionate Martin drew his sword, and severing his cloak in two, gave one-half of it to the mendicant. A more appropriate patron could not have been found for a society, in reference to whom this stanza has been so frequently quoted—

> "Whoe'er has travelled life's dull round,
> Where'er his stages may have been,
> Must sigh to think he still has found
> His warmest welcome at an inn!"

The *Clothworkers' Company* were incorporated by Edward VI., in 1482, under the name of the "Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, of the Sheermen of the city of London." This guild appears to have embodied the members of three more ancient corporations, all connected with the working of cloth, namely—the fullers, tellars (weavers), and burilers (inspectors and measurers). Their charter was confirmed by Henry VIII., Queen Elizabeth, and succeeding sovereigns.

On the twelfth of June, 1607, King James I. dined with the Lord Mayor, Sir John Watts, clothworker, and afterwards went into Clothworkers' Hall, where his majesty, with several gentlemen of his suite, was made free of the company. At this banquet, the Lord Mayor presented the monarch with a purse of gold; and when on the point of leaving, the said mayor beseeched him, out of the great favour he always professed to the society of Clothworkers in particular, that his majesty would condescend to become free of their company; which the king readily accepted, and leaving the dining-room, entered the hall, the mayor carrying the sword in advance of him; and there he was received by the master, wardens, and assistants, "unto whom the king spake kindly and with respect; and asking who was the master of the company, the lord mayor answered, Sir William Stone; to whom the king then said, 'Wilt thou make me free of the clothworkers?' 'Yes,' said the master, 'and do think myself a happy man that I live to see this day.' 'Then,' said the king, 'Stone, give me thine hand; and now I am a clothworker.' He afterwards walked into the garden, and then into the great parlour, the lord mayor bearing the sword before him. During his stay here the earls of Shrewsbury and Cumberland, who were both free of the company, presented his majesty with bread and wine. Then rising up, the king said, 'Now I drink to all my good brethren, the clothworkers; and I pray God to bless them, and all good clothworkers. And for proof of our special favour to the fraternity, I do here give unto this company two brace of bucks yearly, for ever, against the time of the election of the master and wardens.'" The master, wardens, and assistants, humbly thanked his majesty; and the king, after they had kissed his hand, departed.

Clothworkers' Hall is in Mincing-lane, and contains very fine carvings, as large as life, of James I. and Charles I. The annual expenditure of this company in charity, is between £1,000 and £2,000.

Of the marked precedence which these twelve city companies take over the other guilds, the fact that no one is capable of sitting as Lord Mayor who has not previously been enrolled into one of these companies, will establish. Should any member of an inferior company be elected chief magistrate of London, he must quit the company to which he originally belongs, and get himself made a member of the twelve.

Though the companies which we have enumerated are the principal ones, there are among the other companies some which exercise no inconsiderable degree of influence in city affairs, and of which a summary notice will not be out of place.

Foremost among these is the *Stationers' Company,* which existed as a fraternity long prior to the introduction of the typographic art, some of its members having achieved a lasting renown, by being among the earliest to introduce this wonderful discovery to the world. Wynkin de Worde, and Pynson, and "learned John Day," were all of this corporation. Wynkin de Worde chose for the sign of his shop, in Fleet-street, *The Sun,* as symbolic of the light this new art was to diffuse over the globe; and Day, who had a printing-house in Aldersgate, appropriated as a motto this form of words, which simultaneously proclaimed the great invention, and connected his own name with its promulgation—"*Arise, for it is Day.*"

This company, which comprehends booksellers, printers, stationers or dealers in paper, and bookbinders, was incorporated by Queen Mary on the 4th of May, 1556. The chief objects for which the charter was granted were announced to be, that no person within the kingdom of England, or dominions thereof, "should practise or exercise the art or mystery of printing," who was not a member of the Stationers' Company; and that the company should have the power of searching for all books printed in contravention of their monopoly, and generally to "seize, take away, have, burn, or convert to the proper use of the said society, all and singular those books which are or shall be printed or stamped, contrary to the form statute, act, or proclamation, made or to be made." When Elizabeth became queen, the company counted only 35 members, but so great was the demand for books, occasioned by the spread of the Reformed religion, that the number soon amounted to 140. In 1603 King James I. granted to this company the exclusive right of printing almanacs, primers, psalters and psalms in metre and prose, with musical notes, or without notes, and in 1615 he confirmed the above grant, "and further granted to the company the sole right to print the A, B, C; the Little Catechism, and the Catechism in English and Latin, by Alexander Nowell, for the help and relief of the master, keepers, or wardens, and commonalty or freemen of the mystery or art of stationers of the city of London, and their successors." By the act passed in the ninth of Queen Anne, limiting the extent of copyright, it was provided that the entry of any book on the register of the Stationers' Company, and the deposit of nine copies with their warehouse-keepers for the libraries of the universities, &c., should secure it from piracy. By a subsequent act the number of copies was increased to eleven. The monopoly of printing almanacs, &c., is no longer enjoyed by this company, and many of its privileges have been abrogated.

Stationers' Hall is situated in Stationers' Hall-court, on the north side of Ludgate-street, there being in front of it a small forecourt planted with trees, which would not discredit Epping Forest. The hall covers the site of an ancient palace which belonged to John, Duke of Bretagne, and Earl of Richmond, in the reigns of Edward II. and Edward III. Subsequently it came into the possession of the Earl of Pembroke, and was called Pembroke's Inn. Lord Abergavenny occupied it in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. The daughter of this nobleman married Sir Thomas Vane, who, having a more elegant mansion of his own, rarely resided in this building, which he eventually sold to the company of Stationers. This edifice was destroyed by the great conflagration of 1666, and Lord Clarendon says that the "damage that befel that little company in books and paper, and the like," was, and might be rationally estimated at no less than £200,000. When the fire was spreading towards St. Paul's, "all those who dwelt near," continues this historian, "carried their goods, books, paper, and the like, as others of greater trades did their commodities, into the large vaults which were under St. Paul's church, before the fire came thither, which vaults, though all the church above the ground was afterwards burned, with all the houses round about, still remained firm and supported the foundation, and preserved all that was within them, until the impatience of those who had lost their homes, and whatsoever they had else in the fire, made them very desirous to see what they had saved, upon which all their hopes were founded, to repair the rest. It was the fourth day after the fire had ceased to flame, though it still burned in the ruins, from whence there was an intolerable heat, when the booksellers especially, and some other tradesmen who had deposited all they had preserved in the greatest and most spacious vault, came to behold all their wealth, which to that moment was safe, but the doors were no sooner opened, than the air from without fanned the strong heat within; but first the driest and most combustible matters broke into a flame, which consumed all of what kind soever that till then had been unhurt." Within a few years after the present structure was erected on the same plot of ground.

In Stationers' Hall was first performed Dryden's magnificent ode, entitled "Alexander's Feast, or the Power of Music," composed for the anniversary of St. Cecilia, which was yearly kept by the company. Mr. Hone writes, in his *Every Day-Book*, that towards the end of the seventeenth century an entertainment was instituted on the 22nd of November, "in commemoration of St. Cecilia, by many of the first rank in the kingdom, which was continued annually for a considerable time. A splendid entertainment was provided at Stationers' Hall, which was preceded by a performance of vocal and instrumental music by the most capital performers." The poetry, which was invariably eulogistic of St. Cecilia, was arranged to music by Purcell, Blow, and other distinguished composers. Pope, Addison, and other inferior poets, supplied the verses. These entertainments closed about 1703.

The revenue of the company for educational and charitable purposes is very large, Mr. William Strahan, Mr. Andrew Strahan (king's printer), Mr. John Nichols, and Mr. Luke Hansard, being among the largest benefactors.

The Apothecaries were originally associated with the grocers, but obtained a separate charter of incorporation from James I. in 1606. They formed a joint-stock trading company, and carried on business, both wholesale and retail, at their own hall in Water-lane, Blackfriars. The whole of the medicines used in the navy are supplied from this hall, and the company have, generally, a contract for supplying the East India Company with drugs. All persons practising as apothecaries throughout the country must have been previously examined by this company as to the extent of their pharmaceutical knowledge, and have received a certificate of their competence to dispense medicines.

This company has a large botanical garden at Chelsea, the bequest of Sir Hans Sloane, of which a description will be found in our notice of Chelsea. The motto of the Apothecaries is, "*Opiferque per orbem dicar.*"

The *Painter-Stainers' Company* enjoys a respectable antiquity, for, so early as the reign of Edward IV., there was a fraternity known by the same appellation, from the nature of their avocation, which was that of staining glass, decorating altars, illuminating missals, &c. It was not till the reign of Elizabeth that they were incorporated into the present company, which, though of the same name, includes, generally, all classes of painters, from the historical painter down to the painter of houses. Among its members was Sir Joshua Reynolds, who liberally set the example of an union of the higher order of painters with their more humble brethren, and for a time it was the fashion to imitate Sir Joshua in this respect. The hall of this company, which is in Little Trinity-lane, is adorned with an interesting collection of pictures. Among these there is an excellent portrait of Camden, the famous antiquary. He was a freeman of this company, to which he bequeathed a siver cup and cover, which is used every St. Luke's day at their election, the old master drinking to the health of the newly-elected master.

The *Cutlers* are a class of operatives of great antiquity in England. Chaucer speaks of a monk who "bore a Sheffield whittle in his hose;" yet, for two centuries subsequent to that poet's time, English cutlery was held of such small account, that our chief supplies came from the continent. The Cutlers' Company of London were incorporated by Henry V. in 1417, but one Richard Mathew, a shopkeeper at Fleet-bridge, in the reign of Elizabeth, was the first to bring the trade into importance. He became so celebrated for the manufacture of fine knives and hafts, that the queen prohibited any further importation of foreign cutlery, and, at the termination of her reign, the London knives were esteemed the best in the world. The hall of this company is in Cloak-lane.

CHAPTER XVI.

THE CLUB-HOUSES.

In a preceding portion of this work some notice has been taken of a few club-houses more or less connected with the history of the locality described. We now purpose to review these stately establishments collectively, not, indeed, taking them in detail, for their name is Legion, but to mention a few of the leading ones, which may be considered as the types and the exemplars on which the others are formed.

Externally considered, the club-houses present, generally, very fine specimens of architectural taste, several of these structures ranking among our noblest public edifices. The outward elegance is fully equalled by the internal comforts which these agreeable resorts yield to their frequenters. For a moderate fee and a yearly subscription, varying according to the character of the club-house, the members have at their command elegant suites of apartments, an excellent library, the free use of the newspapers, a bevy of attendants; and, moreover, may take refreshments or dine at a cost not exceeding that of the humblest ordinary. Almost every class in the higher and middle ranks of society is represented by its club-house, which is the great arena of meeting when any class question is in agitation. Thus, the liberals have the Reform Club-house; the conservatives and ultra-tories, the Conservative and the Carlton; the disciples of Cobden, the Free Trade; the actors, the Garrick; the savants, the Athenæum; the army and navy, the United Service, the Junior United Service, and the Naval and Military; the universities, the Oxford and Cambridge; the merchants, the Gresham, and the City Club; and the shopkeepers and 'prentices, the Whittington.

The *Conservative Club-house*, in St. James's-street, covering the site of the once-famous Thatched House

Tavern, was erected after the designs of Messrs. Sidney Smirke and George Basevi. The façade is singularly elaborate, and presents a bold and handsome front to the street. It contains numerous apartments, of which the chief are a morning and evening room, a library, dining saloon, coffee-room, and card-room. Of these the evening-room is the most magnificent, being almost 100 feet long, 26 wide, and 25 in altitude, sustained by 18 superb scagliola Corinthian columns. In 1850 this club-house numbered 1,500 members.

At No. 60, in the same street, is *Brookes's Club-house*, founded originally in 1764, in Pall-mall, by the Duke of Portland, the Duke of Roxburgh, and 25 other Whig noblemen and gentlemen. Mr. Cunningham says, that this was at first a gaming-club, farmed by Almack, and afterwards by Brookes, a wine-merchant and money-lender. The present edifice was built after the designs of Henry Holland, at the cost of Brookes, and opened in 1778. In the chronicles of the club there is a curious manuscript note relative to Mr. Thynne. It states that "Mr. Thynne having won only 12,000 guineas during the last two months, retired in disgust, March 21st, 1772." Among the eminent men who have belonged to this club were Fox, Burke, Horace Walpole, David Hume, Gibbon, Sir Joshua Reynolds, Garrick, and Sheridan.

White's Club-house, at Nos. 37 and 38, St. James'-street, is of ancient date, it being first established as White's Chocolate House in 1698. It ceased, in 1736, to be an open chocolate-house, the proprietor forming it into a club-house. It acquired a curious renown as a supper-house, where gambling was carried on to a great extent, and where bets upon every imaginable event were laid. Births and deaths were made the subjects of heavy wagers, and Horace Walpole writes that a characteristic story appeared in the papers of 1750. "A man who dropped down dead at the door of White's was carried in; the club immediately made bets whether he was dead or not, and when they were going to bleed him, the wagerers for his death interposed, and said it would affect the fairness of the bet."

Pall-mall, however, is the western region in which the club-houses most abound, the greater part of its south side being covered with these noble architectural piles.

The *Reform Club-house*, an edifice of great extent, was originated by the liberal members of the House of Commons about twenty years since, and was named after that measure which altered the entire constitution of Parliament—the Reform Bill. The building was erected after the plans of Mr. Charles Barry, the architect of the new houses of the legislature. This club-house, which covers the site formerly occupied by the National Gallery, and the plot of ground adjoining, presents a frontage of 135 feet. The architect of this structure adopted as his model the famous Farnese palace at Rome, built after the designs of Michael Angelo Buonarotti, in 1545. The edifice, though consisting of six floors from the basement, exhibits in Pall-mall a frontage of only three from the ground, the basement and mezzanine below ground and the chambers in the roof being unseen. The pediments surmounting the windows on the first floor in Pall-mall are sustained by Corinthian columns, and at the back, looking over Carlton-gardens, by Ionic pilasters, rusticated, a balustrade rising. The entire design is one of massive grandeur. An Italian court (34½ feet by 29 feet), commencing at the base, is placed in the centre of the quadrangle, and is partly occupied by the grand saloon. The chief chamber on the ground floor is the coffee-room, supported by Ionic columns, and looking into the garden. The drawing-room over the coffee-room is sustained by Corinthian pillars, as is the library. There are about 140 apartments in this magnificent fabric.

The *Travellers' Clubhouse* adjoining, is a smaller structure, built in 1832 by Mr. Barry. No person is eligible for membership who has not travelled at least 500 miles out of England.

Near to the Travellers' is the *Athenæum Club-house,* situate in the south-west angle formed by the union of Pall-mall and Waterloo-place. It was founded for the association of parties distinguished for science or letters, for the professors of the fine arts, and for noblemen and gentlemen of intellectual tastes. It was erected in 1829, after the designs of Mr. Decimus Burton. The east elevation has a rusticated basement with a portico, the ends whereof are filled up and perforated by windows; the angles are finished by a square pilaster and fluted columns of the Doric order, the space between being divided by four columns in pairs of the same order. The frieze is ornamented with triglyphs, and the cornice surrounded by a balustrade. The chief story contains seven lofty windows with sashes, whence there is access to the balcony, and which are ornamented with cornices and trusses. Over this, and running through the whole building, is a beautiful frieze charged with figures in bas-relief, copied from the Elgin frieze in the British Museum. Over is seen a cornice of very bold projection, the whole being crowned by a balustrade. The internal disposition of the apartments is similar to that of other club establishments.

The *United Service Club-house* is opposite to the Athenæum, on the south-east side of Waterloo-place. The building consists of two stories, the ground-floor being rusticated, and having windows on each side of the portico. The upper story contains an elegant series of rooms, having seven lofty windows, with pediments on each elevation, over which, and running through the whole building, is an entablature, and the whole surmounted by a balustrade. The Pall-mall part has a portico the whole height of the structure, and is in two divisions; that of the ground-floor being composed of eight fluted Doric columns, in pairs, having an entablature with triglyphs. This is surmounted by a balustrade, over which are eight Corinthian columns crowned by an entablature and pediment.

One of the most gorgeously decorated club-houses is the *Army and Navy*, at the south-west corner of

St. James's-square, with a frontage of 80 feet in Pall-mall. It is entered from the square, where it exhibits a front of 100 feet, its depth being 200 feet. The architects were Messrs. Parnell and Smith, who have imparted to this building the air of an Italian palace, so light and so graceful are the decorations which they have adopted. This club was founded by Sir Edward Barnes, and some officers from India, who proposed to establish an "Army Club," eligible only to officers on full or half-pay, in her majesty's service. On application being made to the Duke of Wellington to patronise and become a member, his grace declined, unless the establishment were thrown open to the "Navy" on similar terms. This suggestion was acceded to, and the gallant duke joined the Army and Navy Club. The first stone of the edifice was laid on the 13th of May, 1848, by Lieutenant-colonel Daniell, and on the 25th of February, 1851, the club-house was opened. Among the houses taken down to clear the site was that of Lord de Mauley; and with other objects of art and interest bought with the mansion, may be named the looking-glass of Nell Gwynne, which now occupies a prominent position in the visitor's dining-room of the new club-house. The staircase and hall form an effective and picturesque portion of the structure, the decorations being in most artistic style, the caryatides supporting the frieze being especially so. The morning-room is a most superb apartment. Its windows look into Pall-mall, and also into George-street. The enrichments on the walls and ceiling are of extremely fine and varied character, and the entire appearance of the room is truly palatial. The coffee-room is equally magnificent in its embellishments, and taste presides over the whole suite of apartments. The entire cost of this superb club-house and its internal fittings, decorations, and furniture was within £54,000. The Duke of Cambridge is its president, and it has no fewer that 1,600 members enrolled.

CHAPTER XVII.

THE THEATRES.

Theatres abound in London, of which dramatic entertainments form the staple amusement. Playhouses of every character are found in the metropolis, where tragedy, comedy, farce, opera, pantomime, and equestrian spectacles are represented. Shakspere's plays were once in the ascendant at Drury Lane and Covent Garden, but from various causes those establishments have long ceased to be the sole and exclusive receptacles of the regular drama; concerts, horsemanship, and other entertainments, prevailing at the former, while at the latter the lyric Italian opera is very efficiently performed. The plays of Shakspere and other olden dramatists are most frequently represented at Sadler's Wells; the Haymarket, the Princess's and the Surrey Theatres also favour the legitimate drama.

We subjoin a brief sketch of the leading theatres in th British capital.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

The *Italian Opera House,* which is *par excellence,* commonly styled by the above name, was originally built in the Haymarket by Sir John Vanbrugh. On the ninth of April, 1705, it was first opened under the title of the Queen's Theatre, for the representation of Italian operas exclusively. It was erected by thirty persons of rank, chiefly of the Whig party, the inscription on the first stone having the words "Little Whig," in compliment to Lady Sunderland, a famous beauty of her day. In vain did Addison and other writers remonstrate against the encouragement given to foreign performers: the taste for Italian music prevailed over the strictures of the essayists. The opera, however, languished so much, and was so inadequately supported by the public, that in 1720 a sum of £50,000 was raised by subscription, in order to continue the performances; of this sum £1,000 was presented by George I. On the 17th of June, 1789, the Italian Opera House was burnt to the ground, the scenery, the properties, and nearly all the wardrobe being consumed. On the 3rd of April, 1790, the first stone of the present structure was laid by the Earl of Buckinghamshire. Among the numerous inscriptions upon it was the singular one of *Prævalebit Justitia.* The building was designed by Mr. Novosichki. In 1820 Messrs. Nash and Repton were engaged to decorate and improve the edifice, when a handsome colonnade was added to three sides of it, the whole exterior remodelled, covered with stucco, and embellished with a basso-relievo, pourtraying the rise and progress of music, by Mr. Bubb. The interior of the theatre is fitted up in a most costly manner, and is little inferior in size to La Scala at Milan. It contains five tiers of boxes, capable of holding more than 1,200 persons. Each box is enclosed by yellow satin damask curtains, and furnished with chairs. They are generally rented for the season, during which time they are private property, except on what are called "extra nights." The pit and gallery will each accommodate about 800 individuals; persons attending the pit must be in full evening dress. The opera season commences in January, and is continued on Tuesdays and Saturdays till August, there being extra nights on Thursday. In the present year (1851) the season was of unprecedented length, extending to the opening weeks of October; a degree of vitality which may be accounted for by the reduction of prices to the establishment, and the influx of visitors to the Great Exhibition. The performances of this theatre are Italian operas, followed by ballets, in which some of the most exquisite dancing is witnessed. Certainly there is no theatre in London where the two senses, hearing and sight, derive more brilliant gratification. Among the distinguished vocalists who have appeared on the boards of this theatre, may be named Farinelli, Donizetti, Rubini, Catalani, Mara, Pasta, Malibran, Sontag, and last, and very far from least, that attractive syren, Jenny Lind. "Crowded houses, is comparatively a feeble term to apply to the overwhelming audiences packed in the Opera House on the nights of her performance—to the ocean of humanity which flowed thither under the influence of her attraction. Not to have heard Jenny Lind amounted almost to an act of self-abnegation—to have heard her was equivalent to holding credentials of taste."* During her reign hundreds of persons who had never previously tested that exemplary virtue, patience, were content to exhibit it in an extraordinary manner by waiting for hours outside of the theatre, previous to the opening of the doors, in order to secure tolerable seats: their self-denial was not always attended with success, but frequently with the loss of hats, gloves, and other articles of dress.

Immediately opposite her Majesty's Theatre is the *Haymarket Theatre,* the original of which was called the Little Theatre in the Haymarket, to distinguish it from its operatic neighbour. It was first erected by a mechanic named Potter, in 1720, for the purpose of letting it to the French players, as all foreign actors and singers were then called, and its first name was the French Theatre. In 1776 it was raised to the rank of a theatre royal, and a patent granted to Foote, the celebrated mimic and dramatist, for erecting a theatre in the city of Westminster. The old playhouse was taken down, and on the same site Foote built a new one, which was opened in May, 1767. It was successively under the management of Foote, the two Colmans, and Thomas Dibdin. This theatre was, in its turn, taken down in 1821, and the existing edifice raised after the designs of Mr. Nash. The front is formed of a lofty portico, sustained by six Corinthian columns. Over the portico are nine circular windows decorated with sculpture. The interior contains three tiers of boxes, a pit, and upper and lower gallery.

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* *Tallis's Dramatic Magazine.*

Within a few hundred yards of this locality is *St. James's Theatre*, in King-street, St. James's-square, constructed by Mr. Beazley, the architect, for Mr. Braham, the great singer, and opened in December, 1835. The speculation proved unfortunate, so far as regarded Mr. Braham, and the theatre is now occupied, for a considerable portion of the year, by a French company of undoubted talent, and numbering among its members the accomplished Rachel.

Drury-lane Theatre, so named from the neighbourhood in which it is placed, is one of the most ancient dramatic establishments in London. The earliest theatre in Drury-lane dates so far back as the time of Shakspere. It was a cockpit, and hoisting a Phœnix for a sign, it was sometimes called the Phœnix Theatre, and is said to have been opposite the Castle Tavern, in Drury-lane. The memory of this primitive theatre is preserved in the names of two gloomy outlets, *Cockpit-alley*, in Great Wyld-street, and *Phœnix-alley*, conducting from Hart-street into Long-acre. In 1617 the Phœnix theatre was pulled down by a mob, and all the stage properties destroyed. It was rebuilt, and in the reign of James I. the performers were called the queen's servants till the decease of Anne of Denmark, when they were denominated Lady Elizabeth's servants, in compliment to the Princess Elizabeth, afterwards Queen of Bohemia. In 1625, when the union of Charles I. with Henrietta Maria took place, they again rejoiced in the appellation of the queen's servants. Massinger's fine play, "A New Way to Pay Old Debts," was first played here in 1633; Shirley's comedy of the "Wedding" having been produced four years previously. The doors of the playhouse were closed during the ascendancy of the Puritans, and "it was not till 1658," says Mr. Jesse, "that the theatre was reopened by Sir William Davenant, "with such pieces, consisting chiefly of declamation and music as were calculated to suit the yielding, but still fastidious prudery of the age." Soon after the accession of Charles II. a more commodious playhouse was built on the site of the old Phœnix. It was opened on the 8th of April, 1663, with Beaumont and Fletcher's comedy of the "Humorous Lieutenant," and the performers were styled the king's servants. At this theatre it was that Charles II. first succumbed to the influence of the beautiful Nell Gwynne, when she represented *Valeria,* in Dryden's tragedy of "Tyrannic Love." This new temple of the drama was destroyed in 1672, by what appears to be the common lot of theatres—fire; with nearly sixty of the adjacent houses. Sir Christopher Wren was the architect of its successor, which was opened on the 26th of March, 1674. It was enlarged, renovated, and almost entirely reconstructed in 1741. Six years afterwards, Garrick became the lessee, when the address of Dr. Johnson was spoken, commencing—

> "When learning's triumph o'er her barbarous foes,
> First reared the stage, immortal Shakspere rose."

Garrick remained manager of the theatre, and its chief support, till his death, when the property changed hands. The theatre was rebuilt in 1794, after the designs of Mr. Henry Holland. The stage was 73 feet in width, and the interior yielded accommodation for more than 3,600 persons. As so many theatres had been destroyed by fire, it was resolved to make the new one an exception to the calamity which had befallen its predecessors. An iron curtain, proof against the force of a sledge-hammer, was made so as to let down in a critical moment, and divide the audience from the stage; while a reservoir was formed on the top of the house, filled with water sufficient, as the epilogue spoken at the opening of the theatre by Miss Farren (afterwards Duchess of Bolton), gave assurance, to "drown the audience in a minute;" and on the first night the iron curtain was lowered, and the stage was filled with water, through which a man rowed in a boat. These extraordinary precautions, however, did not answer the purpose for which they were intended, and failed to avert the conflagration to which it had been boasted that Drury-lane theatre was invulnerable. On the 24th of February, 1809, only fifteen years after the declaration of its inviolability by fire, the theatre was again burnt to the ground, the scenery, dresses, and properties being involved in the common wreck. The fire burst out at eleven o'clock at night, and the Thespian pile was reduced to a heap of ruins in three hours. Mr. Charles Mackay gives an interesting account of the behaviour of Sheridan, the unfortunate manager, when this overwhelming blow of fate fell on him. At the time of the fire Mr. Sheridan was in the House of Commons. On a sudden blaze being observed from the windows, some members went out to ascertain the cause. They soon returned with the information that Drury-lane theatre was on fire. The house was engaged in considering the question of the Spanish war, on which Sheridan had expressed his intention of speaking. So much sympathy was felt for him, that a motion was made to adjourn the debate, but the intrepid dramatist replied, whatever might be the extent of the private calamity, he hoped it would not interfere with the public business of the country. Saying this, he withdrew from the house, and reached Drury-lane only to learn that he was a beggared man, and that there was no hope of saving any part of the fabric. It is reported that he afterwards went into a tavern opposite, where he was seen by an acquaintance drinking a bottle of wine. His friend expressed his surprise, upon which Sheridan asked, "if a man might not be allowed to enjoy a glass at his own fireside!"

The re-erection of the theatre having been determined on, it was resolved to adopt a somewhat diminished but more magnificent scale, and Mr. Benjamin Wyatt was appointed the architect, his skill powerfully and liberally aided by a committee, at the head of which was the late Mr. Samuel Whitbread, M.P. The new fabric was commenced in 1811, and was opened on the 10th of October, 1812, the performances being *Hamlet*, and *The Devil to Pay*. It was thought desirable that an appropriate address should be delivered on the occasion, and the committee inserted an advertisement in the public papers, inviting the transmission of addresses from writers, and offering the successful competitor a prize of twenty guineas. The specimens sent in spoke little for the literary talent of the country, and were indeed puny, compared with the elegant effusion of Dr. Johnson, written for a similar occasion sixty-five years previously. In this dilemma Lord Holland prevailed upon Lord Byron to write the inaugurative lines, which were at once accepted, and spoken on the opening night by Mr. Elliston, who assumed the character of *Hamlet*. In this address the following passage was enthusiastically cheered, as referring to the bygone glories of Old Drury, and expressing a wish that the future might emulate the past:—

"As soars this fane to emulate the last,
Oh, might we draw our omens from the past!
Some hour, propitious to our prayers, may boast,
Names such as hallow still the dome we lost.
On Drury, first your Siddons' thrilling art,
O'erwhelm'd the gentlest, storm'd the sternest heart;
On Drury Garrick's latest laurels grew,
Here your last tears retiring Roscius drew,
Sigh'd his last thanks, and wept his last adieu."

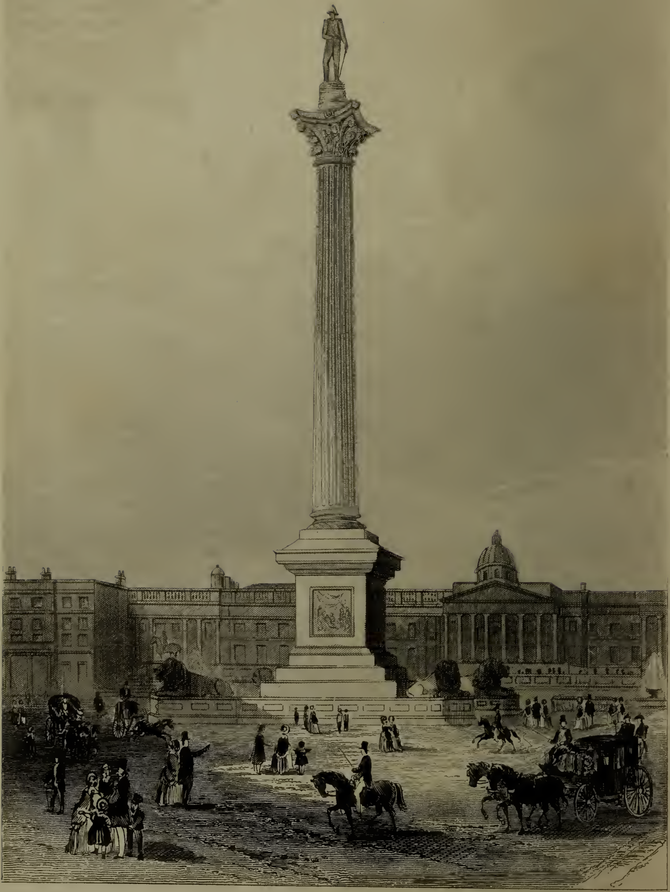
The former theatre had been constructed to contain 3,611 persons: it had been found too large, and that raised by Mr. Wyatt would not hold more than 2,810. Even this theatre was deemed too capacious, and the interior was taken down and rebuilt in 1822, on a reduced scale by Mr. Beazley. The roof was lowered six or seven feet, the boxes were brought five feet nearer the stage, and the whole audience part was remodelled.

These alterations cost more than £14,000, and were completed in two months. The chief entrance in Brydges-street, is through a spacious hall, into a magnificent rotunda: two noble staircases lead to the boxes, and to a saloon eighty-six feet in length, the walls of which are nearly covered with looking-glasses: the lobbies are spacious, and the house is well aired and ventilated. The exterior front of the theatre is formed of a portico, sustained by columns of the Doric order, and surmounted by a statue of Shakspere, which was added in 1820. On the north side, facing Little Russell-street, a handsome covered colonnade extending the whole length has been added within the last few years. Shorn as it is of its original proportions, Drury Lane Theatre seems even now too large for the dramatic wants of the neighbourhood, and notwithstanding a great reduction in the original prices of admission, it has but indifferently answered as a place of theatrical entertainment. For several seasons past it has been appropriated towards the close of the year for the promenade concerts of M. Jullien and his band, and the admission to every part of the house, except the dress-boxes, being only one shilling, bumpers have every night rewarded the enterprise of the lessee. For the ensuing season (1851—2) it has been taken by Mr. Bunn, whom no disasters seem to discourage, and who appears from his perseverance to have adopted for his motto

> " 'Tis not in mortals to command success,
> But we'll do more—we will deserve it."

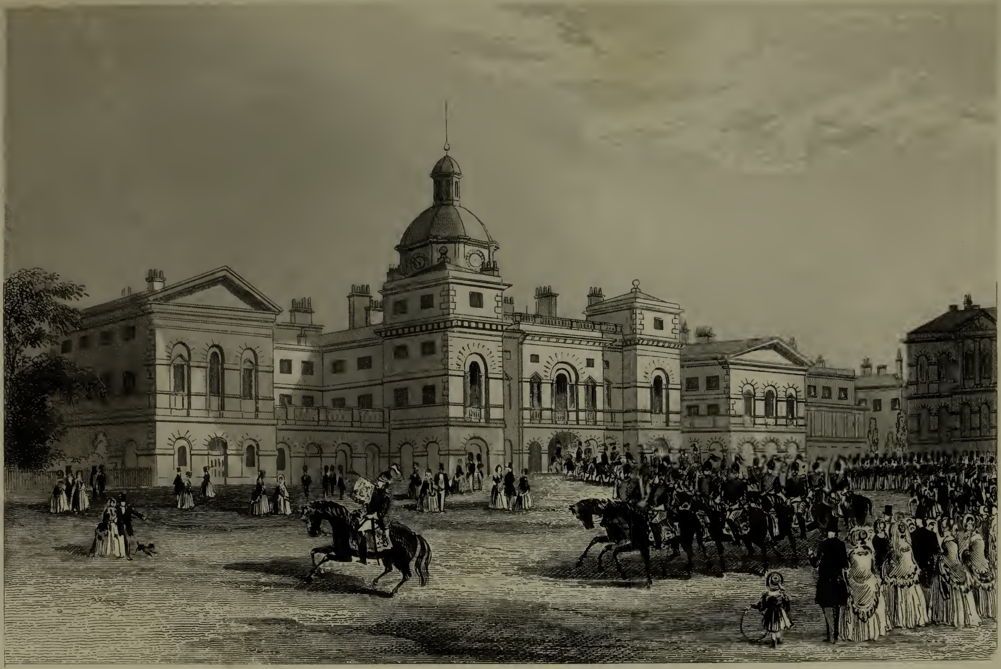
Covent-garden Theatre was first erected by Mr. Rich, the famous harlequin, under the patent granted to Sir William Davenant, and in virtue of which successive companies performed at the theatres in Dorset-street and Lincoln's-inn Fields. He conducted this establishment till 1761, having been for fifty years the manager of a company under the patent granted by Charles II. The theatre passed into the hands of Mr. Harris in 1767, by whom it was nearly entirely rebuilt twenty years afterwards. At that time it presented no frontage in Bow-street, being encompassed by private houses and shops. In 1792 it was again renovated and enlarged at a great outlay, to meet which, Mr. Harris raised the prices. In 1803 the distinguished tragedian, John Philip Kemble, paid £24,000 for a sixth share in this house. The theatre, with all its contents, was consumed by fire on the 2nd of September, 1808, and the flames extended so rapidly that they threatened the neighbourhood with wide-spread destruction. Several houses ignited and were reduced to ruins, and the walls of the theatre falling in, twenty persons were killed. No time was lost in the construction of a new theatre, the first stone of which was laid on the 31st of December, 1808, by the Prince of Wales, afterwards George IV. The design of Mr. Robert Smirke, the architect, was adopted, the houses in Bow-street were removed, and the present edifice was completed in ten months, at an expense of £150,000. The architecture is Grecian-Doric. The portico consists of four massive fluted columns, elevated upon a flight of steps, sustaining a pediment. The Temple of Minerva at Athens furnished the model after which the theatre was built. The chief front is embellished with two bas-reliefs representing the ancient and modern drama.

To aid in covering the vast expense which had been incurred in the construction of the new dramatic pile, the managers increased the numbers of private boxes, and raised the price of admission from 3*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.* for the pit, and from 6*s.* to 7*s.* for the boxes. The theatre was reopened on the 18th of September, 1809, with the tragedy of *Macbeth.* The increase of prices originated that which is known in dramatic chronicles as the "O. P. war," and which was continued by the belligerents for a length of time, and with a perseverance which (to compare great things with small) emulated the siege of Troy or of Acre. When the curtain was raised on the opening night, the persons in the pit created such a disturbance that not one word of the play could be heard the whole evening. The war-cry of the rioters was, "Old Prices," a phrase which they kept up uninterruptedly for hours, when some magistrates who were present made their *debût* upon the stage, and read, not Shakspere, but the Riot Act, and a few of the most uproarious agitators were apprehended. On the following night the disturbances were still more violent, and placards, with the inscription "Old Prices," were hoisted aloft in the pit. For sixty-six nights every imaginable description of noise was kept up by catcalls, trumpets, watchmen's rattles, hooting, hissing, groaning, and imitations of the barking of dogs, the mewing of cats, the braying of asses, and the lowing of cattle, till at length the actors made no efforts to go on with their parts, even in dumb show, simply walking the stage, to be themselves the spectators of the stormy drama which was performing in the front of the house, and in which the public themselves were the actors. It was deemed advisable at length to close the house. A financial statement of the affairs of the theatre was prepared, and from this it appeared that so great had been the expense of its rebuilding, that even under the increased ratio of prices, the profits would not exceed 3½ per cent. upon the capital employed; and that the resumption of the old prices must be attended with a disastrous loss of 15*s*. per cent. This representation did not satisfy the O. P. assailants, and when the theatre re-opened, hostilities commenced anew. Although plays were announced, the infuriated guerillas of the pit would not suffer them to be performed. John Kemble, like other public favourites, experienced the instability of popular applause, being assailed with the coarsest epithets, and offensive placards were raised aloft in the pit, and stuck upon poles to be thrust into the faces of such actors as were hardy enough to make their appearance; and to complete this dramatic Babel dustmen's bells were incessantly rung in the pit and galleries. The mystic letters O. P. soon became the leaders of fashion in the town, and created a greater sensation than the dogmas of Bloomerism in our own time. O. P. handkerchiefs, and O. P. waistcoats, were in universal demand, the latter garments, which were confined to the theatre, having an O embroidered on one flap, and a P. on the other. Hats inscribed with the same letters were in vogue; and not a few of the fair sex rejoiced in O. P. bonnets. O. P. toothpicks, O. P. seals, and other articles of consumption, had their demand wonderfully increased by being associated

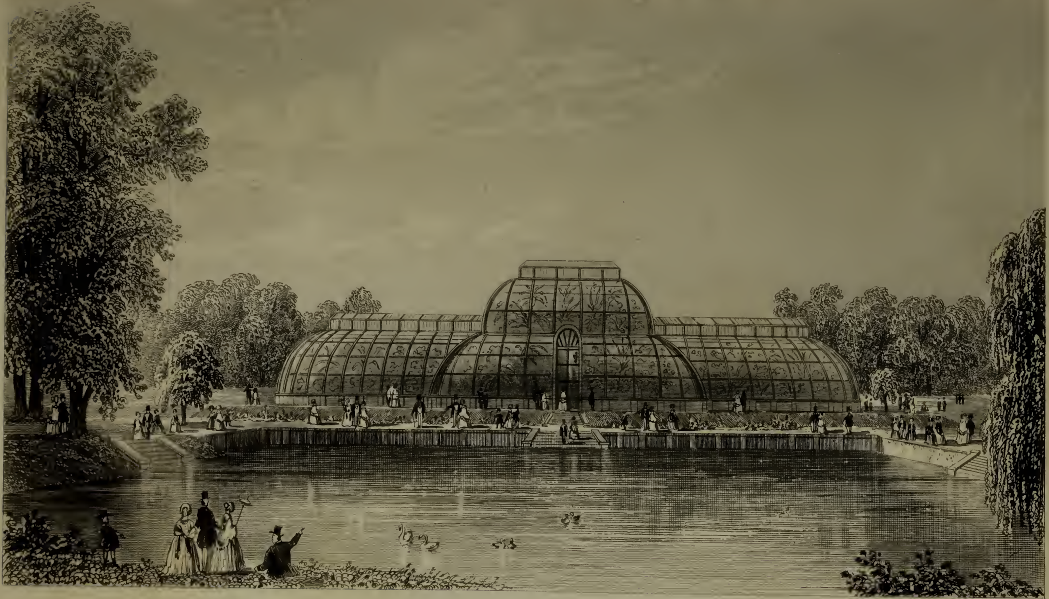


NELSON COLUMN

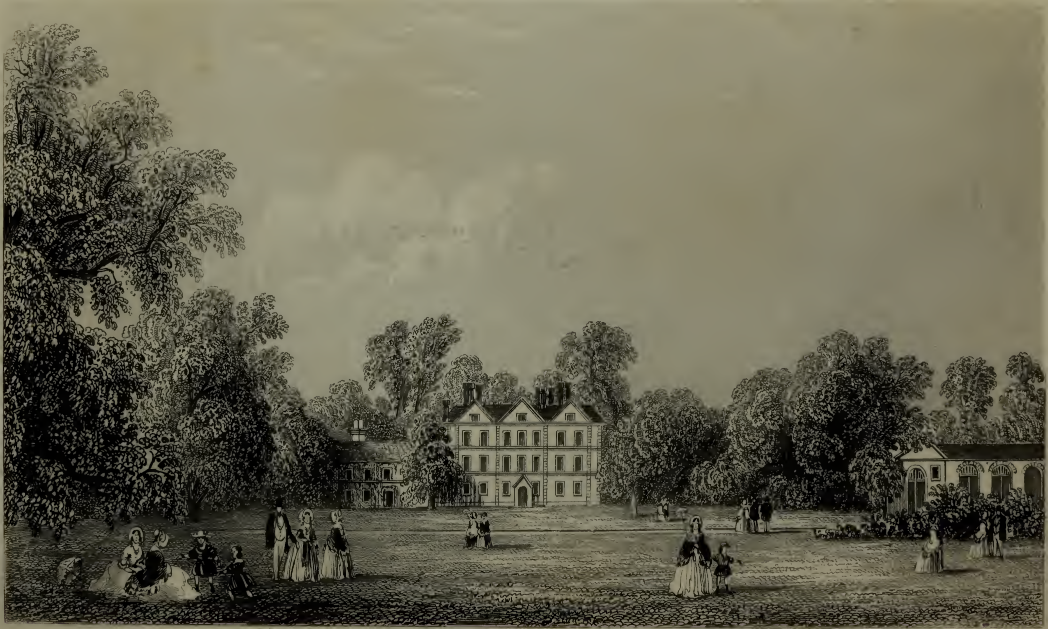
TRAFALGAR SQUARE.



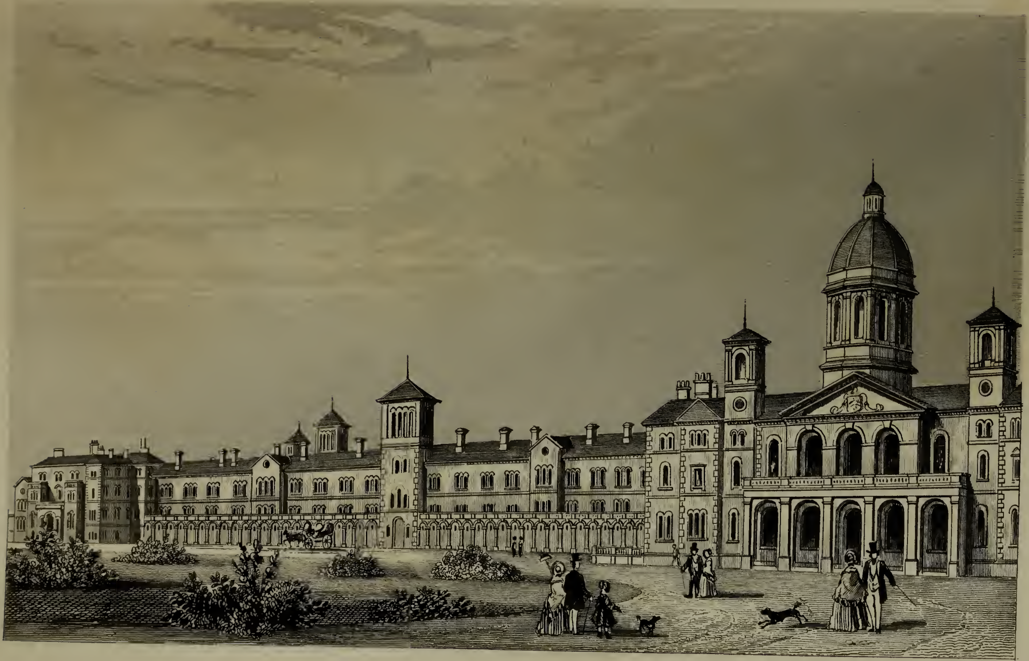
THE HORSE GUARDS FROM ST. JAMES'S PARK.



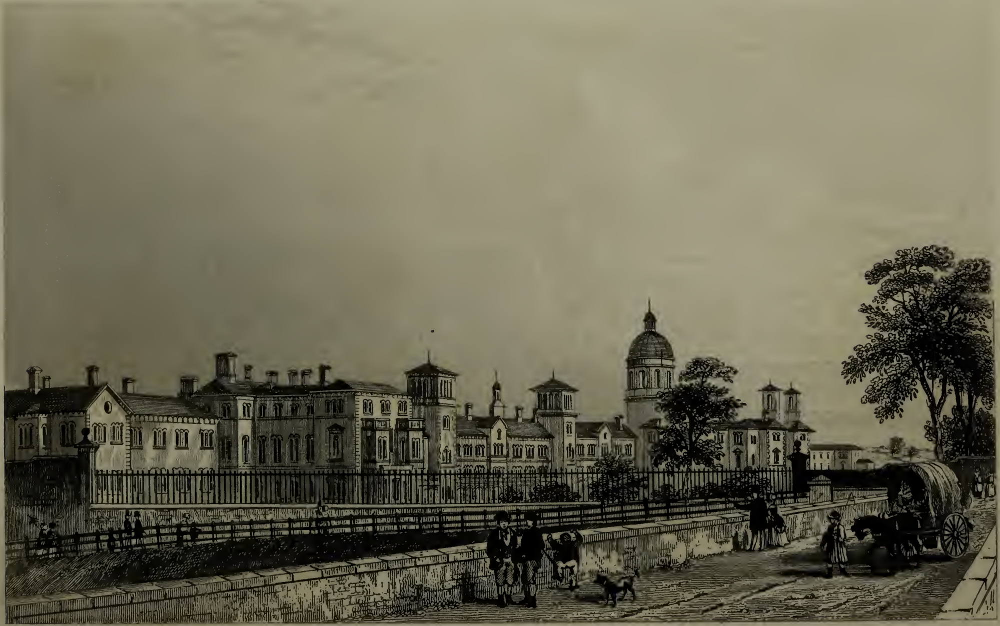
THE PALM HOUSE, KEW GARDENS.



KEW PALACE

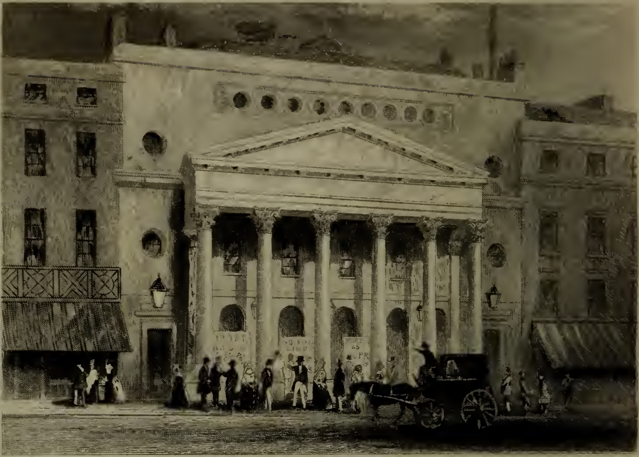


COLNEY HATCH LUNATIC ASYLUM.

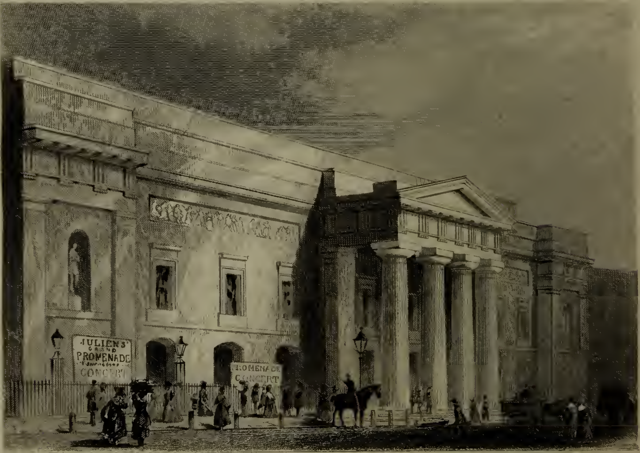


COLNEY HATCH LUNATIC ASYLUM.

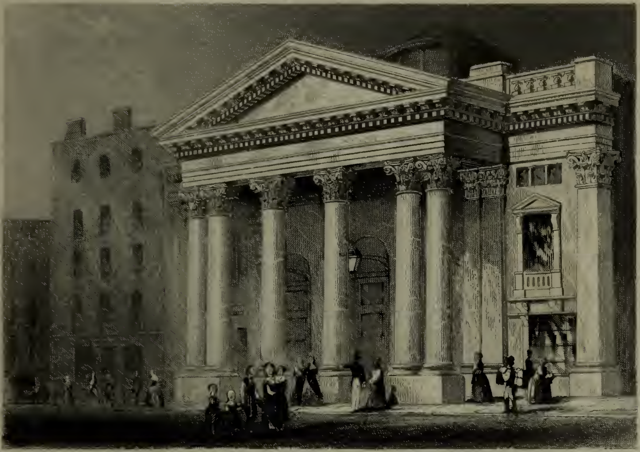
FROM THE RAILWAY BRIDGE



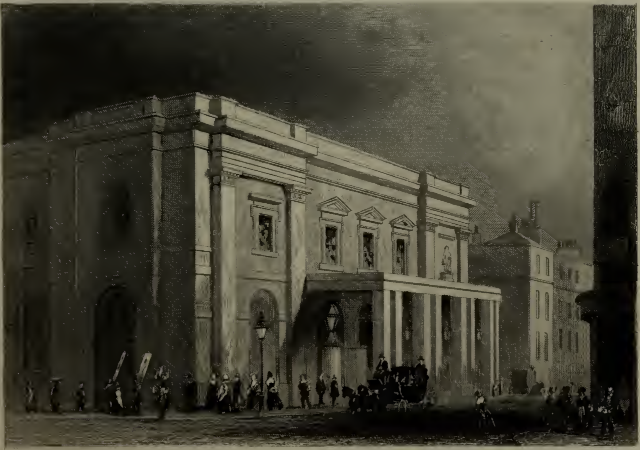
HAYMARKET THEATRE


JULIENS' GRAND PROMENADE CONCERT
PROMENADE CONCERT

COVENT GARDEN THEATRE



LYCEUM THEATRE



DRURY LANE THEATRE

with these exciting initials. At length the promoters of the disturbances began to reflect, that notwithstanding the uproar they created, they were benefiting the manager in a pecuniary sense by filling the house to an overflow every night; and they then resolved not to visit the scene of strife till the commencement of half-price. During the first part of the night all went off tamely enough; but upon the entry of the half-price rioters, war was renewed. Upon the fall of the curtain the mob, after singing the national anthem in full chorus, got up mock fights in the pit, clambered into the boxes, and finally rushed on to the stage, concluding their performances by dancing the O. P. dance. Eventually Mr. Kemble was compelled to yield partially to this clamorous agitation; the terms of capitulation being that the boxes should remain at the advanced price (7*s.*); that the admission to the pit should be lowered to 3*s.* 6*d.*; and that all prosecutions and actions on either side should be withdrawn. On the night of pacification John Kemble was received with the most rapturous applause; the actors were individually summoned to receive the congratulations of the appeased multitude, and a large placard, several feet long, on which was inscribed the words, "We are satisfied," was displayed in front of the pit. The O. P. row thus terminated, and Covent Garden ceased to be the theatre of war.

The same causes which rendered theatrical entertaintainments at Drury Lane unsuccessful prevailed at Covent Garden Theatre, and it remained closed for a considerable time. At length it was re-opened for Jullien's promenade concerts; and subsequently it became the arena of exhibitions of a less entertaining character, the sleep-inducing orations of the anti-corn-law Ciceros. In 1848 a more attractive dynasty prevailed. In consequence of a difference with the lessee of Her Majesty's Theatre, M. Costa, the musical director, Madame Grisi, Madame Castellan, Signor Mario, and several other eminent vocalists and instrumentalists seceded from that establishment, and transferred their services to Covent Garden

Theatre, now distinguished as the Royal Italian Opera House. The interior was entirely reconstructed under the direction of Mr. Albano; the capacity of the house was much increased, and the stage brought forward in a convex form, so as greatly to augment its area, without any diminution of the space set apart for the audience. The internal decorations and conveniences are fully equal those of the rival establishment; and the boxes are hung with curtains of crimson satin damask. Notwithstanding the short time which Covent Garden has been an Italian Opera House, some of the finest vocalists in Europe have appeared on its boards. Among the debutants may be mentioned Signor Tamberlik, Mesdemoiselles Alboni, Catherine Hayes, and Angri.

The *Lyceum Theatre,* sometimes called the *English Opera House,* was originally built in the Strand, opposite to where Wellington-street now stands. Mr. James Payne was the architect of the first structure in 1765. For a short time it was rented by the society of artists for the exhibition of their pictures: when they vacated, it was let for various purposes until 1807, when it was opened by Mr. Arnold as a regular theatre, the staple performance being English operas. Upon the destruction of Drury Lane Theatre by fire in 1808, it was taken by the company of the patent theatre until their own house was re-erected. The old Lyceum was taken down in 1815, the new theatre being rebuilt under the direction of Mr. Beazley. Here the late Charles Mathews first introduced those entertaining performances known as his "*At homes,*" in which by his own individual exertions he filled the theatre fifty nights for many successive seasons. The house was burnt down in March 1830, and its successor, the present structure, arose in 1834, its front elevation being on the west side of Wellington-street north, about fifty yards north of the Strand. The interior is fitted up with great taste, and under the management of Madame Vestris, pieces are put upon the stage with unprecedented effect as regards the scenic properties.

The *Adelphi Theatre,* opposite Adam-street in the Strand, is one of the most admired places of entertainment in London, and has had the merit of introducing to the public some of the best actors that ever trod the boards. Under the management of Messrs. Terry and Yates, and subsequently of the last-named gentlemen and Mr. Charles Mathews, it became extremely popular; its attractive melodramas and telling farces, filling the house nightly to suffocation. It is still a favourite place of amusement, and although one of the smallest is one the best paying theatres in the capital. The internal arrangements display considerable judgment and taste. One circle of dress boxes, a range of boxes behind them which is technically called "the basket;" half tiers, level with the gallery, and a capacious pit and gallery form the extent of public accommodation.

The *Olympic Theatre,* in Wych-street, Drury-lane, was erected in 1805 by Philip Astley, of Astley's Amphitheatre, on the garden ground of old Craven House. It was formed of the timbers of a French man-of-war, the *Ville de Paris,* in which Prince William, afterwards William IV., served as midshipman. It was opened in September 1806, under the name of the Olympic Pavilion. Among its most eminent lessees were Mr. Elliston and Madame Vestris; under the management of the latter it obtained a degree of prosperity which it had never previously known. It was destroyed by fire on March 29th, 1849, and replaced by a handsome structure of stone and brick, which was opened on Boxing-night, (26th of December) in the same year. The fortunes of the new theatre were soon overclouded by the fatality which befel its lessee. Having improperly obtained money to embark in this theatrical speculation, his fraud was discovered, and being tried at the Old Bailey for embezzlement, he was convicted, and sentence of transportation passed upon him. To avoid this disgraceful punishment, the unfortunate man put an end to his existence in one of the prison cells. The theatre remained closed for a time, after which it was taken by that eminent comedian Mr. Farren, under whose direction it is again realizing prosperous seasons.

The *Strand Theatre*, near Somerset House, and adjoining the office of the *Observer* newspaper, is the smallest public theatre in London. The premises were formerly used for the exhibition of Burford's panoramas. The performances are chiefly composed of melodramas, burlesques, and farces. One of its most successful managers was Mr. W. Farren.

The *Princess's Theatre* in Oxford-street, like the Strand one, was formerly devoted to the exhibition of panoramic views, there being also on the same premises a bazaar, which was called the Queen's Bazaar. Upon the destruction of that building by fire, a few years back, the present elegant theatre was built, and named in compliment to the Princess Royal. The Princess's Theatre, externally offers no architectural display, but the interior is fitted up in a sumptuous style, the decorations of the age of Louis Quatorze being adopted. It contains two tiers of boxes, with a capacious pit and gallery. Under its former management the theatre acquired a high character for its effective representations of opera, ballet, and farce: its present managers, Messrs. Kean and Keeley, have rendered it one of the leading theatres in which the legitimate drama is performed, and that too, by professionals of undoubted ability.

The *Queen's Theatre*, once called the Fitzroy, situate in Fitzroy-street, Tottenham-court-road, is a minor theatre in every sense of the word. In days gone by, however, when the starring system prevailed, Edmund Kean, Madame Vestris, and a host of other dramatic constellations glittered in its dreary horizon.

The *City of London Theatre* is in Norton Folgate; and the *Royal Standard Theatre*, opposite the Eastern Counties Railway terminus, is in Shoreditch. Of these cheap minor places of amusement nothing beyond their locality need be named.

The *Royal Pavilion Theatre,* Whitechapel-road, lies at the eastern extremity of the metropolis, and may be considered as a successor to the unfortunate Brunswick theatre. Nautical pieces are the staple performances of this house, which is much frequented by sea-faring men, and others connected with the docks.

Sadler's Wells was originally a place of popular resort on account of the salubrity of its waters; subsequently wine and refreshments were supplied, paying for which entitled the visitors to a free admission to the various amusements. It was eligibly situate by the side of the New River, the margin of which was lined by a goodly array of trees, and it was opened as a theatre in 1683 by Mr. Sadler. In 1745 the following poetic description of its attractions appeared:—

> " Here pleasant streams of Middleton
> In gentle murmurs glide along,
> In which the sportive fishes play,
> To close each weary'd summer's day:
> And music's charm, in lulling sounds
> Of mirth and harmony, abounds;
> While nymphs and swains, with beaus and belles,
> All praise the joys of Sadler's Wells!"

The brick building was raised in 1765, since which the theatre has been entirely rebuilt. It was originally a summer theatre, and was long celebrated for its introduction of real water on the stage, which the proximity of the New River rendered of easy accomplishment. Grimaldi, the most famous clown that ever gave hilarity to a pantomime, endowed Sadler's Wells with a lasting popularity, by his indomitable fun; but although the cause of merriment in others, domestic afflictions and personal sufferings rendered the clown behind the scenes a far sadder man, than he was before the curtain. Nothing can be more touching than the melancholy address, relieved only by a few allusions to his past theatrical career, delivered by Grimaldi at his farewell benefit at Drury Lane Theatre, somewhat more than twenty years ago. At the age of forty-eight years, prematurely old, and suffering under an accumulation of sorrow, he made his final bow on the stage where he had so often amused others, and where he sadly said, "like vaulting ambition," he had overleaped himself. For several years past this theatre, although a minor one, has achieved an honourable reputation under the management of Mr. Phelps, who having brought together an able company, produced here in very superior style the plays of Shakspere, and of other great dramatists; which for some cause or other had not attracted at the two patent theatres, and which not drawing great houses had been ostracised from those establishments. The experiment of Mr. Phelps was well received by the public; the size of the theatre contributed to give effect to those dramatic representations of which for a time it was the sole stage, and in bringing forward which it set a praiseworthy example, which though other theatres were slow to follow, they *did* eventually. While, however, the interior of Sadler's Wells presents a well-packed audience and an improved appearance, the outside no longer rejoices in that rural appearance which once rendered it a favourite afternoon resort. The noble avenue of trees by which the theatre was approached by St. John's-street-road have been ruthlessly hewed down by speculators, unable to respond to the sentiment embodied in "Woodman spare that tree;" and the spacious court-yard, in which for so many seasons their pleasant foliage was seen, has been parcelled out in building plots, and unattractive houses raised thereon, affording a dismal illustration, that however prosperous theatrical property may be, its value is infinitely below that of house property.

Astley's Amphitheatre, Westminster Bridge-road, was first opened in 1767, as a riding-school by Mr. Philip Astley, who had served in the army, and was well skilled in horsemanship. The wonderful control which he possessed over the horse attracted public attention, and Astley converted the riding-school into an exhibition, for which he charged entrance money. An information was lodged against him. Before any further proceedings had been taken, Mr. Astley happened to see George the Third riding over Westminster Bridge on a spirited horse, which the king, who was an excellent horseman, was unable to manage. In this dilemma Astley came to the assistance of his majesty, and in consideration of the service he then rendered, the information was dismissed, and the licence granted to him. The chief actors at this theatre are quadrupeds rather than bipeds, and equestrian spectacles are produced here in an effective style unattainable elsewhere. Under the management of Mr. Ducrow the theatre was eminently successful; the production of such pieces as the *Battle of Waterloo*, the *Conflagration of Moscow*, and other historical dramas, manned and horsed by the whole force of the establishment, filling the house nightly with spectators. A few years ago this theatre was destroyed by fire, and Mr. Ducrow was involved in a ruinous loss. This overwhelming affliction so deeply affected him, that he did not long survive it. His successor, Mr. Batty, built the present capacious structure, retaining the original frontage. It contains accommodation for 4,000 persons, and is the only theatre on the Surrey side of the water, which has been enabled to preserve its original prices of admission.

The *Surrey Theatre*, in Blackfriars-road, near St. George's-circus, was originally built in 1779, for burlettas and equestrian exercises, and was for some time under the management of Charles Dibdin. It was then called the Royal Circus. It was destroyed by fire in 1805, soon after which the present fabric was erected on the site of the former. Towards the close of his career Elliston was the manager, and under his direction the Surrey gained a high degree of celebrity. Among the eminent actors who have starred on its boards, may be mentioned Mr. Macready. Though originally confined to the summer, this theatre is now open throughout the year. Its performances are of a very respectable character, and it has a regular opera season, during which some of the most eminent native vocalists are engaged.

The *Victoria Theatre,* in Waterloo-road, at the corner of the New-cut, was built and opened in 1817, under the name of the Coburg Theatre, in compliment to Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coburg, the consort of the Princess Charlotte, and now King of the Belgians. Its first name was changed to its present one upon the accession of her present Majesty. The house was built after the design of Signor Cabanel; and soon after its opening exhibited the extraordinary attraction of a looking-glass curtain, which certainly presented ample scope for the *reflection* of the whole audience. Domestic melo-dramas are the chief performances here, in which for many years the most prominent characters were filled by Miss Vincent, now the lessee. This is the lowest priced regular theatre in London, the entrance money to the boxes being one shilling, that to the pit six-pence, and the gallery three-pence.

We have now named all those houses of entertainment which not only are, but were primarily theatres. There have, however, sprang up in the metropolis and suburbs a number of places in which the attractions of the drama are diluted with those of the public-house. To some of these the price of admission to "the feast of reason," includes also refreshment for the body; or in other words the holder of a shilling ticket to these Bacchanalian theatres is entitled to have half his ingress money returned to him in the shape of grog or malt-liquor: others have gradually dropped this system, and while allowing their patrons still to imbibe exhilarating fluids, are not content to include the cost of them in the price charged for entrance. In a work of the present character it would be totally superfluous, almost impossible, to name all these places of recreation: those who have taste for the attractions they proffer must be their own caterers. It will suffice to say that the foremost and best of these is the *Grecian Saloon,* in conjunction with the *Eagle Tavern* in the City-road. The interior of this little theatre is fitted up with extreme beauty, and operas and ballets are most creditably represented here. The premises also include a small garden, tastefully laid out in the Vauxhall fashion, with an aërial orchestra, cosmoramas, an extensive concert-room, called the Hall of Nations; there being representations of the principal capitals of Europe on its walls, and a magnificent ball-room. It is well conducted, and new operatic triumphs have been achieved, not by diplomacy, but by *Conquest*, its present lessee.

CHAPTER XVIII.

THE PUBLIC GARDENS.

Out-of-door amusements form no inconsiderable portion of metropolitan recreation during the summer and autumn months, and although gardens of public entertainment have decreased in number, such decline may be rather attributed to legislative interference, to the increasing strides of bricks and mortar, and to other causes than the caprice of patrons. Lysons writes, that "in the year 1730, it became much the fashion, among all ranks of people to resort to the various breakfast and tea-drinking places, which abounded in the villages near London." This taste became so general, and so much increased in twenty years, that a special act of parliament was carried in 1752, "to prohibit all places of public entertainment being open before a certain hour in the afternoon."

Vauxhall Gardens, for antiquity, claim priority of notice. Pennant describes them originally to have been covered with the house and grounds of the notorious Guido Fawkes, of gunpowder-plot notoriety, whence the place was called Fawkes-hall, converted by time into Vauxhall. This, however, appears mere conjecture, as we have shown in our notice of the neighbourhood, that the manor of

Vauxhall was known for centuries antecedent to the time of Guy, and that it derives its name from a loyal knight, and not a traitorous knave. More authentic evidence represents the gardens to have been planted in the reign of Charles I., for we learn from Aubrey that they were well known in 1667, when Sir Samuel Moreland, the proprietor, added a public room to them; "the inside of which," says the historian, "is all looking-glass and fountains, very pleasant to behold, and which is much visited by strangers." Addison, and contemporary essayists, notice Vauxhall, or Spring Gardens, as a place of fashionable resort. In No. 383 of the *Spectator*, Addison gives a delightful narrative of his visiting Spring Gardens with Sir Roger de Coverley, performing the voyage with the worthy knight in a boat from Temple stairs to Vauxhall. The entertainments were chiefly confined to music, until rather more than a century back the premises were taken by Jonathan Tyers, who altered the house considerably, planted additional trees, formed shady walks, and enriched the gardens with the paintings of Hogarth and Hayman, and the statuary of Roubiliac.

The *coup d'œil*, on entering this agreeable resort at night, is certainly very effective. Emerging from passages purposely darkened, a blaze of illuminations almost dazzle the sight as we enter the gardens. A covered quadrangle, forming an agreeable promenade, is lighted with many thousand variegated lamps, formed into devices, initials, and other glittering objects. Attached to this quadrangle are numerous pavilions or recesses, adorned with paintings, in which supper is provided for the guests. Opposite to the west door is a magnificent gothic orchestra, radiant with light, where we have heard Mrs. Bland, Miss Stephens, Miss Love, Braham, Sinclair, and all the great native vocalists of the last generation, and where the musical entertainments are still of a very meritorious character. To the left of the orchestra is an extensive rotunda, handsomely fitted up with stage boxes, &c., in which the chief amusements are equestrian feats, varied with the drolleries of Mr. Merriman; ballet performances, exquisite statuary, and well-finished transparencies add to the attractions; and these gardens are famous for the numerous balloon ascents which have been made from them. Towards midnight, the entertainments close with an unequalled display of fireworks, the back-ground representing the Kremlin at Moscow, the castle of St. Angelo, at Rome, or some other edifice of world-extended renown. Sometimes an intrepid female ascends a tight-rope, apparently too narrow to afford secure footing to a cat, enters the firework-tower, and thence returns to *terra firma*, pausing midway, to receive the salutations of a host of rockets, serpents, and other pyrotechnic artillery. The fireworks conclude what may be called the sight-seeing of Vauxhall, but the quadrille bands remain, and Terpsichorean revels commence, and moreover the supper-rooms and boxes gradually fill; a Vauxhall supper, succeeded by Vauxhall punch, being deemed integral parts of the entertainments.

In the time of Mr. Tyers, the admission to Vauxhall Gardens was one shilling; as the resources of entertainment became more numerous, the price fluctuated until it reached the sum of four shillings. At length the permanent price of admission resolved itself to half-a-crown; a charge which, during the closing nights of the season, is reduced to a shilling, to afford the mass an opportunity of visiting this pleasant spot. Under the management of Mr. Wardell, much has been done to revive the past fame of the gardens, which are among the metropolitan sights that foreigners and strangers should not leave unvisited.

Cremorne Gardens are one of the pleasantest summer resorts near London, and being accessible by water as well as by land, the aquatic journey forms no inconsiderable inducement to the pleasure-seeker to travel to the melange of nature and art which this pleasant demesne exhibits. The gardens are located in the most picturesque part of Chelsea, on the north bank of the Thames, a little above Battersea-bridge. Although of modern appellation, the neighbourhood of Cremorne has some antiquarian reminiscences, the site which it covers having been adjacent to Beaufort House and gardens, the residence of Sir Thomas More, the learned and pious chancellor of Henry VIII. That uxorious monarch was a frequent guest at Beaufort House, and in subsequent years his daughter, the Princess Elizabeth, was accustomed to visit the place. It is worthy of notice that when Lacey, the patentee of Drury Lane Theatre first contemplated the establishment of public gardens of entertainment, the site of Beaufort House and its grounds, bordering upon the modern Cremorne, was considered as the most eligible for the object; but Sir Hans Sloane being in negotiation for the premises, the shareholders decided upon purchasing that property which for many years as Ranelagh Gardens was the fashionable centre of attraction.

Early in the last century, Cremorne owned the rural name of Chelsea Farm, and successively was the property of several persons of distinction, one of its latest owners, under its old name, being the Duchess of Bridgewater, to whom it belonged in 1777. In 1803 it came into the hands of Viscount Cremorne, whose name it has since borne. At the commencement of this century, Cremorne House numbered among its distinguished visitors, George III. and Queen Charlotte, and the Prince Regent delighted to unbend and cast off the cares of state in this agreeable retreat. At a subsequent period, that splendid reunion of fashion and rank, the Bachelor's Fête, was held here, and the capability of the gardens for a place of public entertainment was then first advantageously developed. In 1825, Cremorne found a new owner in Mr. Granville Penn, and subsequently Mr. Hope, author of *Anastasius*, purchased the premises, which were first opened to the public, under the classical but inexpressive name of the *Stadium*. The initiatory experiment was not successful, but under a new directory, and a new name, Cremorne Gardens became one of the standard popular amusements of the capital.

The gardens, covering twelve acres of ground, present to the eye a delightful variety, wherein the art of the landscape gardener is advantageously shown, the accessories thereto giving to the spot the appearance of a metropolitan vale of Tempe. Thickly-timbered plantations, varied with lawns and flower-gardens, and intersected by ornamental walks, adorned by the choicest and most classical specimens of statuary, greet the eye. A succession of day and night amusements, including equestrianism, a concert, a ballet, *tableaux vivants*, panoramic views, and fireworks, are provided for the recreation of the visitors. In front of the gardens is a river esplanade, reached by a light bridge, flung across the intervening road. Occasionally naval fêtes or tournaments take place before the esplanade, and all the mimic pageantry of a sea-fight is represented on the Thames, the effect of which is considerably heightened by a rare display of fireworks, in imitation of a bombardment. The charge of admission to Cremorne Gardens is, on week-day, one shilling; and on Sundays, when they are simply open for promenade and refreshment, they are free. The present lessee is Mr. T. B. Simpson, who has shown much tact in meeting the public tastes—a tact which the increasing relish for *al fresco* amusements has given a just return.

The *Zoological Gardens*, in the Regent's Park, are deservedly famous for the vast collection of animals there domiciled, containing no fewer than 1,200 specimens. These gardens belong to the Zoological Society, and admission to them could formerly only be obtained by an order from a member, in addition to the usual entrance fee of one shilling. By a recent regulation, orders are no longer necessary, and on Mondays the public are admitted for sixpence, the original price of entrance being still demanded for the remaining days of the week. The grounds are laid out with considerable taste, and present a brilliant display of flowers and shrubs transplanted from the gardens of the Horticultural Society. The animals are each kept in a state as nearly approaching to their natural habits as possible: the birds are in extensive aviaries; the aquatic animals have large reservoirs of water for their recreation; and the boa-constrictors and chilly members of the serpent tribe, are furnished with blankets and other warm appliances to shield them from the cold. Beavers and otters are accommodated with rustic grots wherein to retire when they have had a satiety of bathing; monkeys and bears are supplied with poles for the gratification of their climbing aspirations; and elephants, giraffes, and the *ci-devant* inhabitants of the jungle, are each and every one allowed the fullest scope of enjoyment compatible with their safe keeping. The hippopotamus, or sea-horse, a recent addition, was the rage for a season, not merely of the gardens, but of the metropolis. Everybody went to pay their respects to the amphibious monster, whose popularity for the time rivalled that of Jenny Lind, or the Exhibition. Crowds attended the levee of the hippopotamus, who like most "stars," received his visitors with great *nonchalance*, scarcely ever condescending to raise more than his head above the bath in which almost all the day his Obesity loved to luxuriate. An ourang-outang (or according to the new spelling, uran-utan) of singular intelligence, a very late importation to the gardens, perhaps rivals the sea-horse; it may be that the urbanity of the ape presents an advantageous contrast to the unsophisticated manners of the hippopotamus. Of the Zoological Gardens we need only further say, that they are a marvellous improvement on the unventilated apartments which heretofore were used as menageries, and in the confined space of which only a very limited number of animals, and those in indifferent condition, could be exhibited.

The *Horticultural Gardens*, at Chiswick, cover 33 acres, and were established by the Horticultural Society. The objects of its founders were to prepare and maintain a place adapted for every description of experiment in horticultural science, and to collect in one repository the most valuable and ornamental plants which the entire world could yield, preparatory to their subsequent diffusion throughout England. These gardens comprehend an arboretum, which contains a valuable collection of ornamental trees and shrubs; the most perfect orchard ever planted; forcing-houses, hot-houses, and an extensive kitchen garden. The annual fête at Chiswick is one of the most brilliant entertainments of the year, a floral and musical festival where the *élite* of fashion, rank, and beauty are invariably found. One of the most pleasant features at the Chiswick fête is thus graphically pourtrayed by Mr. John Saunders: "The beauty of our countrywomen is proverbial all the world over, yet it may be safely asserted that we Englishmen ourselves hardly know what it is in its perfection till we see it here. The poets have delighted to ransack the floral world for the tints, the delicacy, grace, the sweetness, that may best illustrate the personal characteristics of their favourites, whether of reality or fiction; and many a smile at their expense have matter-of-fact readers enjoyed in consequence: we suspect, however, that could even the least imaginative of such persons see the loveliness meeting us at every turn in these gardens, pressing us onwards in the tents, as we delay an extra second or two of time to contemplate apparently the profusely-blooming kalmia, or retarding us —not unwilling to be so retarded—while it is itself in reality so engaged with a tea-scented rose-tree, they will confess that even such flowers as are here would have the worst of it in a competition for beauty." On this occasion the distribution of prizes to the successful exhibitors forms no inconsiderable source of gratification.

The *Royal Botanic Gardens*, in the Regent's Park, belonging to the society similarly named, are bounded by what is known as the Inner Circle, and cover 18 acres of ground, which previously belonged to a nurseryman. One of the most attractive features is an immense winter garden, entirely covered with glass, and constructed for the protection of plants requiring in this country an artificial climate. This structure nearly occupies 15,000 feet of ground, is from 20 to 30 feet in height, 300 feet in length, and 200 feet in breadth, and is capable of admitting at one time more than 2,000 persons. Another attractive object is the mount, from the summit of which is obtained the best view of the whole of the gardens, the effect of which from this spot is most picturesque. An ornamental piece of water, a medico-botanical and agricultural, and other gardens, an arboretum, a collection of herbaceous plants arranged according to their affinities, and many other accessories, render these gardens a delightful promenade. The annual fête, like that at Chiswick, is an eagerly-coveted amusement, and prizes exceeding £1,000 in amount are distributed on that occasion, for encouraging the importation and growth of valuable plants. Admission is obtainable to the gardens by the written order of a Fellow of the Botanic Society.

The *Surrey Zoological Gardens,* situate between Walworth and Kennington Common, are deservedly in favour with the public, and although originally founded for the special recreation of the residents on the Surrey side of the Thames, by the pleasing variety which they present attract crowds of visitants from every part of the metropolis and its tributaries. These gardens were first opened in 1831, by Mr. Cross, for the reception of the animals composing his extensive menagerie, and which for many years previously had occupied a part of old Exeter Change, a building which being pulled down, led to a very pleasant change of residence for its zoological tenants. The grounds, which occupy more than 13 acres, are tastefully laid out after the designs of Mr. Phillips. A large sheet of water with two islets, containing a boat-house and summer-house, add much to the attraction of the place. The carnivorous animals are contained in a curvilinear glazed building 300 feet in diameter. Elephants, giraffes, bisons; ostriches, eagles, pelicans, foreign birds of varied and glittering plumage, boas, and numerous other animals, are domiciled in these gardens, to which their present proprietor, Mr. Tyler, has added several features which have much increased their popularity. During the summer season they offer a fête every night. In a handsomely-constructed orchestra, raised upon the brink of the rivulet, the band of M. Jullien nightly perform the choicest musical compositions, and these instrumental concerts are succeeded by large panoramic spectacles, such as Vesuvius, Ætna, the siege of Gibraltar, Napoleon crossing the Alps, and similar scenes, the effect of which is aided and heightened by a brilliant display of fireworks. These gardens, from the varied entertainments which they present, are frequently selected for the festivals of benefit, and other societies; and they are greatly in request for floral exhibitions. The price of admission is one shilling, a moderate charge, which is certainly one of the causes of the remarkable success which attaches to these gardens.

Highbury Barn and Gardens are situate at the extremity of Highbury-place. Notwithstanding the humble designation of "Barn," the establishment is by no means of an humble character, containing three noble assembly-rooms. Of these, two are detached from the main building, and are placed advantageously in the grounds. The chief room is of noble dimensions, and in its general style reminds us of some of the fine assembly-rooms to be seen in Bath, and other fashionable watering-places. The gardens, which are very extensive, are beautifully laid out, and well adapted for public recreation. In this attractive place of resort, Messrs. John Tallis and Co., the publishers of this work, give their annual banquet and festival, during the Whitsuntide holidays, to the persons in their employment, numbering upwards of two hundred; and the proprietors of some of the leading newspapers, and many other establishments, select Highbury Barn as the scene of their fêtes.

Among the other public gardens may be named, St. Helena Gardens, Rotherhithe; Hornsey-Wood House; and Chalk Farm, Primrose Hill. White Conduit Gardens, Bagnigge Wells, and others once in high repute, the progress of building has utterly extinguished.

CHAPTER XIX.

THE PARKS.

ST. JAMES'S PARK — BUCKINGHAM PALACE — THE GREEN PARK — HYDE PARK — THE REGENTS' PARK — VICTORIA PARK, ETC.

St. James's Park was originally a swamp attached to the monastery of St. James-in-the-Fields, and on the suppression of that religious house in 1532, converted by Henry VIII. into a park, originally called the New Park, for which eventually its present designation was substituted. King Henry circumvallated the park, laid out some walks, stocked it with deer, and it is said formed Rosamond's Pond, which was situate opposite to St. James's-street, Westminster, at the south-west corner of the park. It was fed by some streams, which afterwards traversed the fields where Parliament-street now stands, and fell into the Thames. Its retired situation rendered it a favourite resort with the meditative; while its secluded character tempted many unfortunate persons to seek a voluntary grave within its waters; indeed more suicides are said to have taken place here, than in any other part in London. The first wall of the park reached to that point where the houses on the south side of Pall Mall are now seen; but when Charles II. ascended the throne, he removed the wall to its present boundary, added thirty-six acres of land to the park, and under the direction of Le Notre, a famous French gardener, planted avenues of lime and elm trees. He also caused the canal to be dug 2,800 feet in length and 100 wide, and on an islet in the canal he formed a decoy for wild ducks, consisting of an extensive shrubbery: it was a large irregular grove encompassed by trees, containing various ponds, in which to collect and catch wild fowl. Duck Island, as this place was called, was formed into a government with a small salary attached thereto, Sir John Flock and the philosophic Evremond having successively enjoyed the sinecure. On an island in one of the ponds of the decoy, towards the parade, William III. erected a summer pavilion, in which he frequently drank tea. *Bird-cage-Walk* was the favourite aviary of Charles II., and was thus named from the cages containg rare birds, which were suspended from the trees. "Here," writes Colley Cibber, "Charles was often seen, amid crowds of spectators, feeding his ducks, and playing with his dogs, affable even with the meanest of his subjects." On the other side of the park that monarch formed the *Mall*, originally a smooth hollow walk, half-a-mile long, and bounded at the end by an iron hoop. The game of *Pall Mall* was played here by striking a ball through an iron ring, suspended from a hoop. Charles II. was to be seen on this spot, in the commencement of his reign, playing this exhilarating game, at which he was said to be remarkably expert. Waller, no less adroit as a courtier, than elegant as a poet, equally ready to serve the republican or royalist party, whichever happened to be in the ascendant, before his eulogistic jeremiad on Cromwell had grown stale, thus sang the praises of the prince, to whom the Protector had been the direst enemy:—

"Here a well-polished Mall gives us the joy
To see our prince his matchless force employ;
His manly posture and his graceful mien,
Vigour and youth in all his motions seen;
His shape so lovely, and his limbs so strong,
Confirm our hopes, we shall obey him long.
No sooner has he touched the flying ball,
But 'tis already more than half the Mall;
And such a fury from his arm has got
As from a smoking culverin 'twere shot."

Pepys, in his Diary, of the date May, 15th, 1663, says, "I walked in the park discoursing with the keeper of the Pall Mall, who was sweeping it, and who told me, that the earth is mixed that do floor the Mall, and that all over there are cockle-shells, powdered and spread to keep it fast, which, however, in dry weather turns to dust, and deads the ball." The person to whom this office was entrusted was called the "Cockle-Strewer." In the following reigns the public were allowed the privilege of walking here, and in the time of William III. the narrow passage still remaining, through Spring Gardens, was opened for their accommodation. The Mall continued to be, till towards the close of the last century, the most fashionable promenade in London. In 1770 some alterations were made in the park, when Duck Island was destroyed, and Rosamond's Pond filled up, and a new lawn made in front of Buckingham House, a palace which had been purchased for the queen in 1761. The Wellington barracks indicate the site of Rosamond's Pond.

Modern taste has done much to improve the appearance of St. James's Park, the ornamental enclosure of which was laid out as it appears at present, in 1827 and 1828. Previously the sheet of water was straight from one end to the other, and the centre parallel of Bird-cage-Walk and the Mall. When peace was proclaimed in 1814, a Chinese bridge of wood was thrown over the canal, upon the middle of which was a tall pagoda, decorated with pillars and boxes for the discharge of fire-works, and Chinese lanterns were suspended in Bird-cage-Walk and the Mall, their fantastic lustre far excelled by the modern illumimation of gas. The pagoda ignited at midnight, and two persons lost their lives, but the bridge was allowed to remain until improvements made its removal necessary. The enclosure is surrounded by an iron railing, with gates at certain distances, which remain open to the public till dusk. The canal, which runs through its centre, is now pleasingly diversified by two covered islets, and is peopled by a great variety of water-fowls, belonging to the Ornithological Society. The walks, parterres, and shrubberies of the enclosure, render it a most delightful promenade. The park is oblong in shape, and nearly two miles in circumference. At the east end, opposite the Treasury, is the *Parade,* where various regiments perform their exercises. On the north side of the Parade, within a *chevaux-de-frieze* fence, is a celebrated piece of Turkish ordnance, inscribed with eastern hieroglyphics, which was taken at the battle of Alexandria by the British, in the campaign of 1798-9. Opposite is a mortar on a large dragon, which was first exhibited to public inspection on the 12th of August, 1816. In 1812, when the siege of Cadiz was raised by the French, it was spiked and left by them in the city. It was presented by the Cortes to the Prince Regent. When brought to England it was mounted on a bed of metal weighing sixteen tons, and placed where it now stands. It is eight feet long, the bore is twelve inches in diameter, and it will propel a shell for the distance of three miles. The Foot Guards, with a band of music, parade the park every morning from 10 to 11; after which it proceeds to relieve the regiment on duty at St. James's Palace, in the court-yard of which the bands of both play favourite pieces to a popular but gratified audience.

Buckingham Palace, the residence of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, is at the west end of St. James's Park;—formerly Arlington House (the residence of Henry Bennet, Earl of Arlington, a member of the *Cabal* faction in the reign of Charles II., and the "Achitopel" who figured in Dryden's verse), stood upon the site of this palace. In 1703, John Sheffield, Duke of Buckingham, a titled poet, purchased the mansion from Lord Arlington, and, taking it down, erected in its stead a more magnificent edifice, which was called Buckingham House. Here this nobleman died, and his remains were carried hence to their gorgeous resting-place in Henry the Seventh's Chapel. From his son, Sir Charles Herbert Sheffield, Buckingham House was purchased by the Crown for £21,000, and was granted to Queen Charlotte, the wife of George III., in lieu of Somerset House, and it was commonly called the Queen's House. It was a favourite residence of Queen Charlotte, and here all her children, except the eldest, were born.

In 1825 this ancient edifice was removed, and the present palatial structure commenced by Mr. Nash, and completed, after his death in 1835, by Mr. Blore. In 1846, Parliament voted £150,000 to construct an east side, which was finished in 1850. Neither by George IV., the projector of the new palace, nor by his successor, William IV., was this sumptuous pile inhabited; but Queen Victoria made it her permanent abode soon after her accession to the throne. The palace is reached by the chief mall of St. James's Park, and, until very recently, a grand *Triumphal Arch*, of white marble, formed the principal approach. This arch was re-erected in the present year at the north-east entrance of Hyde-park, opposite Cumberland-place, and is certainly a vast improvement upon the plain iron gates which preceded it. It is a fine imitation of the arch of Constantine at Rome, and is ornamented with sculpture by Bailey and Westmacott, representing the battles of Waterloo and Trafalgar, with medallions of Wellington and Nelson. To return to the palace. The park front is an open quadrangle of great extent, in the centre of which is a portico combining the Doric and Corinthian styles. Considered architecturally, the chief front is the garden one. It is 345 feet long, and comprehends five ornamental Corinthian towers; and a terrace the whole length of this front, between two conservatories in the form of Ionic pavilions, greatly augment the general effect. No fewer than 40 acres, five of which are appropriated to a lake, are laid out as a garden for royal recreation. The palace, internally, presents a most splendid appearance. The ceiling of the hall is sustained by double columns of white marble; the pavement is of the same material, surrounded by a mosaic border of different marbles. Ascending from the hall by a broad staircase, a superb guard-chamber is entered, 120 feet long, and supported by pillars. The great staircase, which is of fine white marble, comprehends a centre and two returning flights. On ascending the stairs, the landing-place communicates with a vestibule, beyond which is the saloon, and further on the throne-chamber. The former is 50, and the latter 60 feet in length, and 40 in height. The picture-gallery adjoins, and is 164 feet long by 28 broad. It is lighted by three rows of ground glass, representing the stars of all the orders of knighthood in Europe. It contains some splendid specimens of the Flemish and Dutch schools. The drawing-rooms are of great extent, and enriched with striking ornaments. The music-room, which opens from the great drawing-room and into the picture galleries, is 60 feet long; it likewise communicates with the armoury. The floors are of inlaid woods of different colours, similar to the designs on the ceilings. The door-cases are formed of statuary marble richly sculptured, and with different figures on several of them the size of life. The cornices of these doors are ornamented with infant genii, cornucopiæ, and baskets of flowers. The greatest distinction of the interior of Buckingham Palace consists in the number and splendour of the columns and sculpture, which far exceed everything of the kind attempted in modern times. There are 140 columns in the guard-room and hall, each of them composed of one block of white marble, and all have golden capitals. We have before mentioned that the levees and drawing-rooms are held in St. James's Palace.

The ground now forming the *Green Park* was, anterior to the Restoration, covered with meadows. Charles II. made it a royal demesne. It is now an open plat of fifty-six acres only, a portion of it having been abstracted by George III. to extend the gardens of Buckingham Palace. This park is a triangular piece of ground, parallel with Piccadilly, and is separated from the palace-garden by Constitution Hill, a road on its south side running from St. James's Park to Piccadilly, through Nash's triumphal arch, surmounted with Wyatt's equestrian statue of the Duke of Wellington. The park is only separated from Piccadilly by iron railings, and that bustling thoroughfare derives great advantage from the contiguity of its rural neighbour. At its north-east corner there is a fine sheet of water, and on its east side are several noble mansions, the most prominent of which are Stafford House, (built by Mr. B. Wyatt in 1825 for the late Duke of York, who did not live to inhabit it), the seat of the Duke of Sutherland; Bridgewater House, completed in 1851 by Mr. Barry for the Earl of Ellesmere, and Spencer House, the town dwelling of Earl Spencer.

Hyde Park, stretching from the western extremity of the capital to Kensington Gardens, contains four hundred acres. In the time of Henry VIII. it was part of a manor belonging to the monks of Westminster, who were fortunate enough to receive from that monarch some other lands in exchange for the manor of Hyde. The park appears to have been long used for the purposes of rural enjoyment. During the Commonwealth, Hyde Park was divided into lots, and sold for the sum of £17,068, including the deer and timber. After the Restoration it was replenished with deer, and encompassed by a brick wall, and the public were allowed free entrance. Charles II. entertained the Emperor of Morrocco's ambassador here with a military review, and the ambassador's attendants in return went through their exercises, flinging lances with inconceivable rapidity, and catching them again, riding at a ring, and carrying it away on their lances, &c. The *Serpentine* river was commenced in 1730, by order of the king, on the site of a string of ponds. Before Queen Anne's reign, Hyde Park was of greater extent than at present. In 1705 that princess took from it thirty acres, which she added to Kensington Gardens, and as we have stated in our notice of Kensington, Queen Caroline, the queen of George II., impounded no fewer than three hundred acres of this park to add to the importance and extent of her favourite gardens. This queen it was who once conceived the notable idea of enclosing St. James's Park, and excluding the public from it altogether. She, however, before acting upon this notion, thought it advisable to enquire of Sir Robert Walpole what would be the probable cost of this undertaking.—"A mere trifle, Madam! *Only three crowns*," was the reply of the shrewd minister.

There are seven entrances to this park. One from Hyde Park, completed in 1828 by Decimus Burton, and consisting of a screen of fluted Ionic columns, with three archways for carriages, and two for foot passengers; Grosvenor Gate; Cumberland Gate (the marble arch,) at the end of Oxford-street; Victoria Gate, Uxbridge-road; Stanhope Gate; one near to the entrance of Kensington, and the Albert Gate at Knightsbridge. The colossal statue in honour of the Duke of Wellington, in the park at the back of his Grace's residence, Apsley House, was erected by a public subscription of ladies, in commemoration of the victories of Salamanca, Vittoria, Toulouse, and Waterloo, and was cast from cannon taken in those battles. The figure is a restoration in bronze of one of the celebrated group on the Monte Cavallo at Rome. This fine cast, which is called Achilles, was executed by Westmacott, and placed in the park on June 18th, 1822, the anniversary of the battle of Waterloo. The altitude of the statue exceeds eighteen feet. It is upon a basement and plinth of Dartmoor grey granite, surmounted on a pedestal of red granite; the whole, with the mound from the line of road, is thirty feet in height. As a place of promenade for all classes, Hyde Park is extremely popular. The paths for pedestrians are maintained in the best order, and the fine drives here, from which only public vehicles are excluded, afford ample scope for carriage exercise. In the season, from April to July, Hyde Park is thronged with numerous fashionable equipages, and alive with all the animation of rank and beauty. On Sundays it is still more frequented; the less privileged orders then availing themselves of their respite from toil, to enjoy its pure air and verdant sward. On the occasion of the coronation of her present Majesty a fair was held in this park, which attracted large concourses of people; but that fair was ephemeral indeed, when compared with the brilliant and prosperous career of one which, in 1851, Rotten-row, the favourite haunt of equestrians, was the witness, and of which Mr. Thackeray thus wrote :—

"But yesterday, a naked sod,
The dandies sneered from Rotten-row
And sauntered o'er it to and fro;
And see 'tis done,
As tho' twere by a wizard's rod;
A blazing arch of lucid glass
Leaps like a fountain from the grass,
To meet the sun.

A quiet green but few days since,
With cattle browsing in the shade—
And lo! long lines of bright arcade
In order raised;
A palace as for fairy prince,
A rare pavilion, such as man
Saw never since mankind began—
And built and glazed!"*

But of that great historical fact in the chronicles of Hyde Park, the Crystal Palace, we must reserve a notice for the concluding portion of this work.

Regent's Park, on the north-west side of London, lying between the New-road and Hampstead, covers an area of more than 450 acres. So far back as the reign of Elizabeth it was a royal park, bearing the name of Marylebone, and it is said that that queen had a palace here. When Cromwell became protector, he bestowed it on his satellite, Harrison, and at the Restoration it became the property of private individuals. Finally Marylebone Fields reverted to the Crown, and were only used as pasture land, till under the auspices of the Prince Regent (afterwards George IV.,) the present elegant park was formed, and named appropriately after its royal patron. It was laid out in 1812, from designs, by Mr. James Morgan; by whom the leading terraces were erected. The most commanding approach is to turn to the left from Portland-place, under the Ionic colonnade of Park-crescent, and crossing the New-road, to enter the park. The south side is about half-a-mile long, and parallel with the New-road. The east side, nearly rectangular with the south side, extends northward to Gloucester Gate, almost three-quarters of a mile distant. The west side, forming an oblique angle with the southern one, stretches in a direction west of north to Hanover Gate, for half-a-mile. A sheet of water extends from Hanover Gate in a south-east direction, parallel to the west side of the park, and curving round, continues in a direction parallel to the south side. Within the crescent formed by the north-east and south arms, is the ring, the interior of which is occupied by the Botanic Gardens. On the eastern slope, at the north side of the park, are the Zoological Gardens. Along the east, south, and west sides of the park, are several ranges of edifices remarkable for their architectural grace. Of these the principal are—*York, Cornwall, Hanover, Munster, Gloucester, Cumberland, Chester, Cambridge,* and *Ulster Terraces.* The centre of the park is occupied by a smaller ring or drive, the approach to which is in a direct line from York Gate, by a bridge over a beautiful lake, which enhances the landscape. Passing South-villa, a handsome structure with a Doric portico, the ring is entered on the left, and we arrive at the Holme, distinguished for its noble Ionic portico. On the other side of the ring is the elegant cottage of Mr. Jenkins, whose nursery-grounds occupy the whole space within the enclosure, and in which every year a bazaar is held for the purposes of charity. North of the ring are many handsome villas, among them that of the Marquis of Hertford being most prominent. From the open north side, a delightful prospect is gained of the elevations of Primrose Hill, Highgate, Hampstead, and the range of hills extending westward to Harrow. South of Gloucester Gate are the church and hospital of St. Katharine, with dwelling-houses on each side for brothers and sisters, the chaplain, and other officers. These structures were erected in the place of the ancient foundation of St. Katharine, near the Tower of London, which was taken down in 1827, to make room for the spacious docks erected on the site. The new church is of the Gothic order, in the style of the early part of the fifteenth century; the west front of Winchester Cathedral appearing to be the model adopted. This place of worship was erected after the designs of Mr. Poynder. The beautiful stalls of the old church have been carefully transferred to the new, as well as a curiously carved pulpit, given in 1621 by Sir Julius Cæsar, the master. It has six sides, with views of the hospitals and its gates, as they were in the days of the artist.

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* *The Times.*

Not only is Regent's Park deservedly admired for its costly residences, and picturesque plantations, but it has additional claims to popularity, as the locality of some of the most attractive exhibitions. Of these the Zoological and Botanical Gardens have been named; equal in merit, though different in character, are the Colosseum and Diorama. The *Colosseum*, adjoining Chester-terrace, on the east side of the park, was projected by Mr. Horner, for the purpose of exhibiting a panoramic view of London and the suburbs, taken from the top of St. Paul's Cathedral. The structure was commenced in 1824, but was not thrown open for exhibition till 1829, when much of the metropolitan panorama was only in outline, and a very high charge made for admission. The delay in perfecting the Colosseum ruined its unfortunate projector, but the committee, to whose management it devolved, proceeded to complete the picture. The structure, which was erected after the plans of Mr. Decimus Burton, presents externally a Greek Doric portico of noble dimensions, and a dome 126 feet in diameter, of which 75 feet are entirely composed of glass. Its shape is polygonal, having 16 faces, each 25 feet in circumference. The interior walls of the building represent a panoramic view of London, as seen from the several galleries of the metropolitan cathedral. The view of the picture is obtained from the galleries. Over the last there is placed the copper ball, which for so many years was on the summit of St. Paul's·

and above it a fac-simile of the cross by which it was surmounted. Hence a small flight of stairs conducts to the opening gallery, which environs the top of the Colosseum, whence a fine view of the park and the adjacent country is gained. The galleries are reached by staircases, built around the circular tube that goes up the centre of the building; and in this column is an ascending room, by which persons who wish to avoid the fatigues of climbing the stairs may be hoisted up to the gallery. The panorama covers more than 40,000 square feet, or nearly an acre of canvass, and may for its fidelity to the original, be styled a daguerreotype of the great metropolis. Occasionally a panoramic exhibition of Paris, equal in extent, is substituted. A circular saloon, enriched with the works of our native sculptors, and where instrumental music is performed in the evening; classic ruins; a Swiss cottage, from a recessed window in which is seen an exquisite representation of Alpine scenery, varied with mimic waterfalls; a Gothic aviary; arabesque conservatories, and stalactite caverns, are among the manifold attractions of this delightful place of entertainment. A new entrance has been made in Albany-street, and another exhibition has very recently been added, called the *Cyclorama*, representing the Tagus, from its mouth to Lisbon, and portraying with startling effect the earthquake which overwhelmed that unfortunate city in ruin.

The *Diorama*, a short distance to the south of the Colosseum, was first opened in 1823, for the exhibition of *two views*, (the signification of the word diorama), by M. Daguerre and Bouton. The pictures, which represent architectural and landscape objects, are partly transparent, and are arranged and lighted so as to produce various and striking effects. The public accommodation comprehends stalls and a saloon, the floor of which revolves on a pivot, thus bringing the spectators gradually in view of each picture, which remains stationary, and is furnished with moveable blinds at the back, by which the rays of light are intercepted, and cast in appropriate tints on the semi-transparent portion of the painting. The ceiling is transparent, radiating from the centre, but on first entering the place appears dark. The views exhibited are 86 feet in length by 45 in height, and their effect is much enhanced by the solemn peal of the organ and the cathedral hymn, the murmuring of cascades, &c. The views are changed nearly every season.

Victoria Park, containing 290 acres, is located at the east end of London, near Hackney and Bethnal-green. It covers a great portion of the area formerly known as Bonner's-fields, and Parliament voted the sum of £100,000 towards its establishment. It was commenced in 1842, and opened about three years afterwards. It is well planted with trees, contains some beautiful sheets of water, and the entrance lodges at Hackney, and other apertures of the park, are distinguished by architectural taste. This beautiful plantation was formed for the philanthropic purpose of affording relaxation and enjoyment to the toiling artisans in the densely-crowded and smoke-begrimed districts of Whitechapel, Shoreditch, Bethnal-green, and Mile-End. More recently, to add to the gratification of the labouring classes in these neighbourhoods, the government has sent a military band, to perform at regulated times in the park. The creation of Victoria Park for the especial purpose of providing pure air and healthful exercise for the poor tenants of the garrets, cellars, and humble abodes contiguous to it, is a most pleasing sign of the times, inasmuch as it indicates that the rich and powerful no longer deem the poor beneath their consideration. It shews, that there is an increasing feeling in high quarters, for augmenting the social comfort of the humblest members of the community; not deluding them with frothy, meaningless speeches about liberty, fraternity, and equality, but giving them practical proofs that their well-being is bound up in the dearest interests of the country. No nobler monument exists of the kindly disposition which now generally prevails, for ameliorating the condition of the operative classes; no surer antidote is found to the incendiary harangue, which would make the humble discontented with their governors, than Victoria Park.

Clapham Park, lying to the N.E. of the Common, and extending from Clapham to Brixton and Streatham, has been formed within the last twenty years, every successive year witnessing its improvement. It is constructed somewhat after the plan of the Regent's Park, but its mansions and villas are generally furnished with more extensive gardens than is the case with its western cotemporaries. It contains many beautiful plantations, and several wide and stately roads, some of them named after royalty; others after private individuals having an interest in the park. It commands wide and extended views of some of the most picturesque parts of Surrey. The majority of the residences are distinguished by architectural taste, and rather add to, than detract from, the pleasing effect of this small but extremely elegant park.

Greenwich Park and Richmond Park have already been noticed in our description of the localities which they grace. In the vicinity of London there are various other parks peculiarly English in their attractions, but being private ones, or fine areas affording ample scope for the designs of the builder, they require no classification in this work.

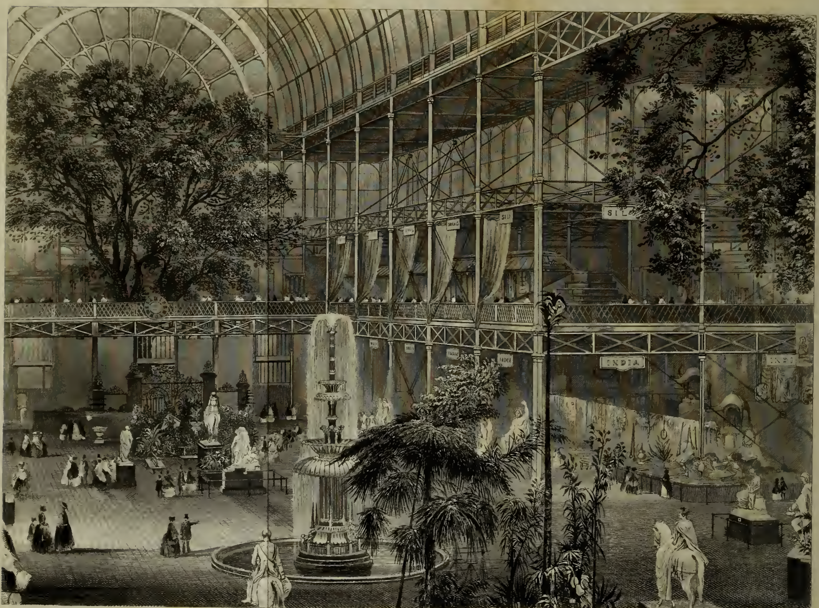
CHAPTER XX.

LONDON EXHIBITIONS, ETC.

In the course of our peregrinations through the metropolis, we have had occasion to point out some of the most memorable entertainments by which it is varied—theatrical, optical, and musical. But the sources of amusement in London are so numerous, that to describe them consecutively and fully would occupy more space than we have devoted to the history of London itself. Even to name them all would be inconsistent with the plan which we have adopted, of only referring to those of most prominent interest. The subjoined places will amply repay a visit.

The *Great Globe*, in the enclosure of Leicester-square, was erected there this year by Mr. Wyld, the great map-seller, and member of parliament for Bodmin. This model bird's-eye view of the world, the cost of whose erection amounted to nearly £5,000, is painted upon the interior of an immense globe, the external masonry of which is not dissimilar to the Colosseum, Regent's-park. The structure is round, and its diameter is 88 feet. The distinctive physical features of the earth, as pourtrayed by that great geographer Humboldt, are represented on this stupendous globe. The mountains are brought out in relief, the icy regions, with their fantastically shaped bergs, faithfully displayed, the courses of mighty rivers, the ocean, the volcanos, and all the other terrestrial features, are distinctly indicated, as well as the geographical divisions. This globe is 170 feet in circumference, and 56 feet in diameter; and is formed on ribs of zinc, each circle in four divisions, connected together with copper. The scale is after the rate of 10 miles to an inch. This accurate epitome of the world is viewed from four galleries, one above the other, to which the ascent is by a winding staircase. The admission fee to this wonderful exhibition was upon its opening five shillings, an amount which was shortly reduced to the more popular and permanent sum of one shilling. The royal statue in Leicester-square, which has been mentioned in our earlier notice of that locality, was not taken down, but enclosed within the building of the Globe.

Burford's Panorama, in Leicester-square, is comparatively of ancient origin, Robert Barker being the first who exhibited panoramic views in this place about 1794. The process of painting is distemper, but applied in a peculiarly ingenious manner. In this building, paintings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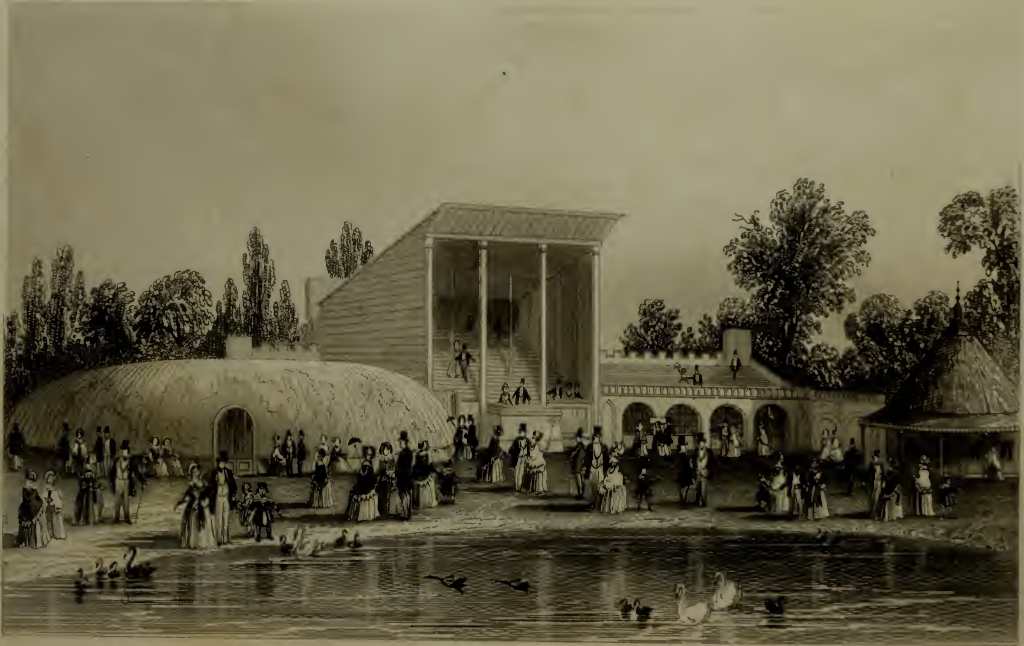

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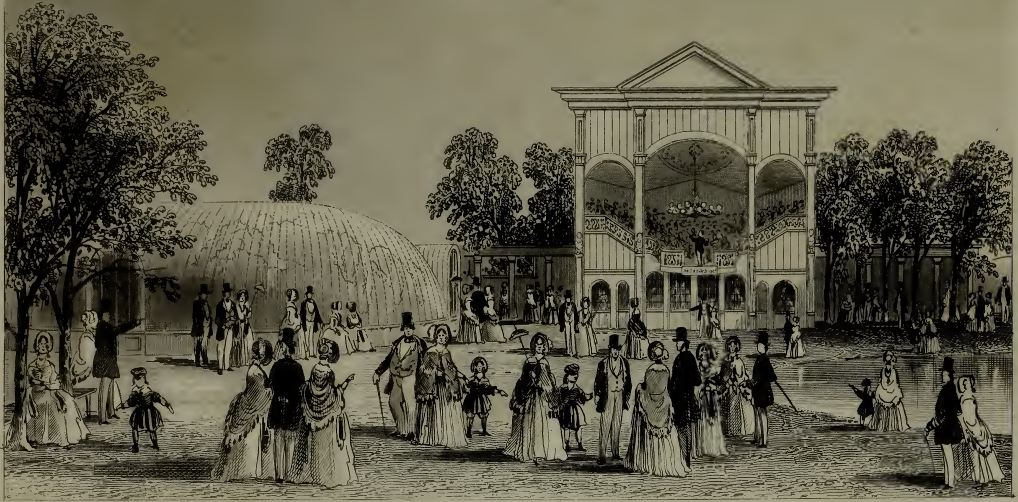

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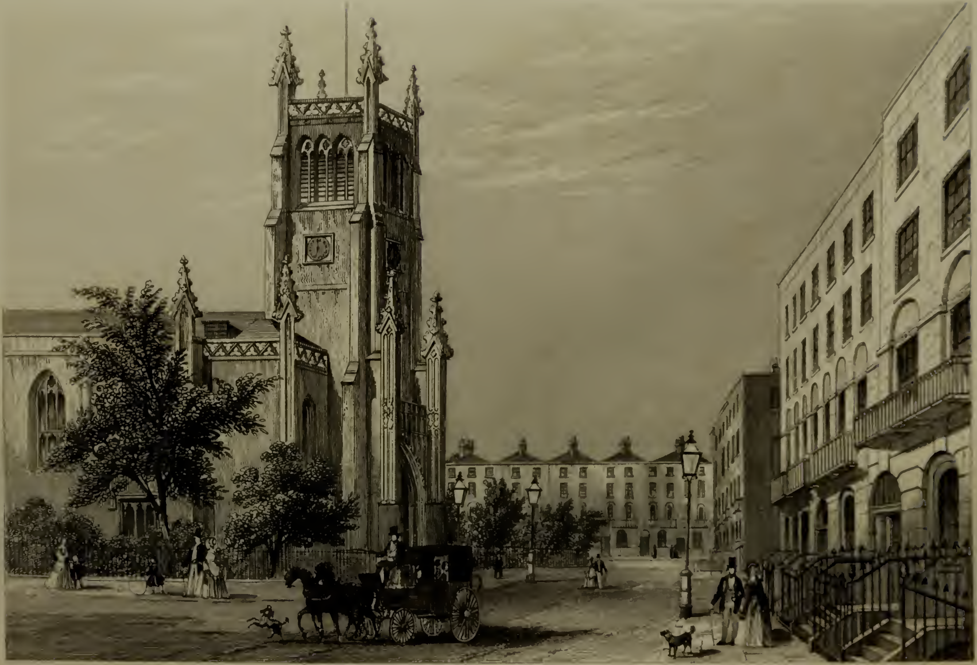

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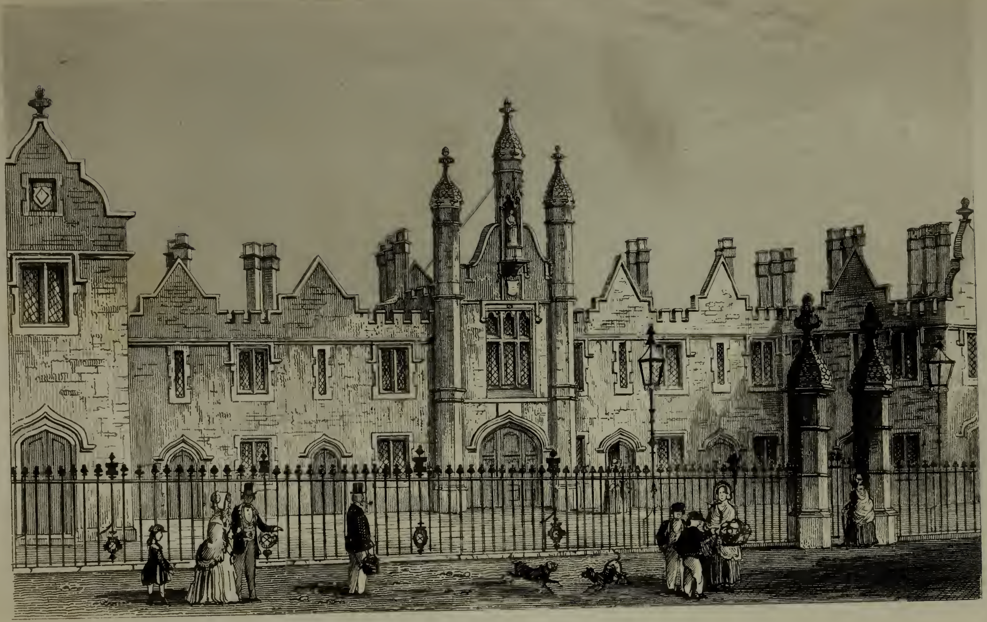

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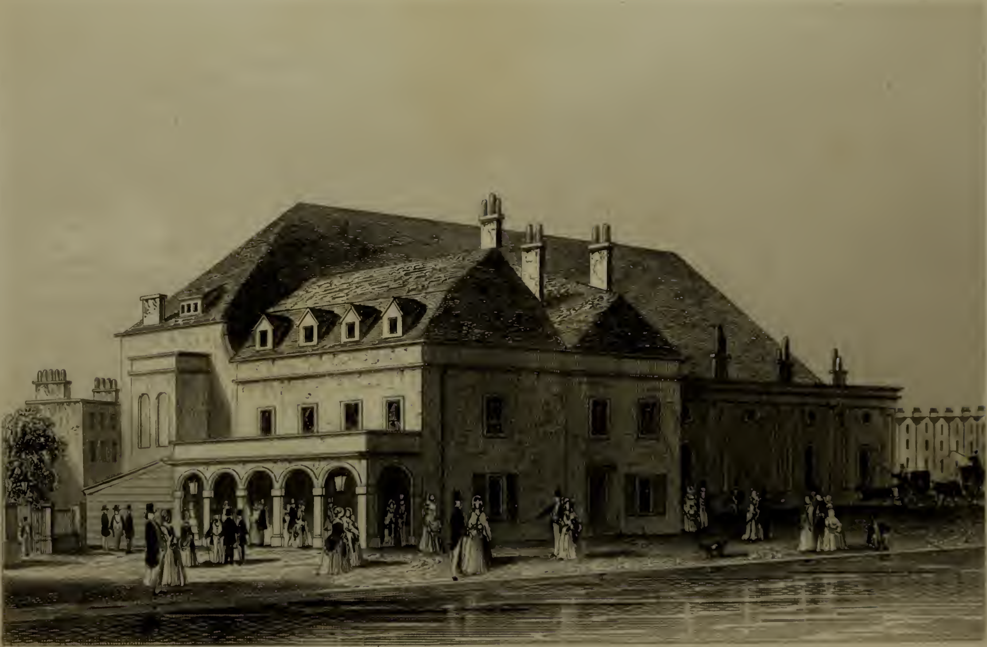

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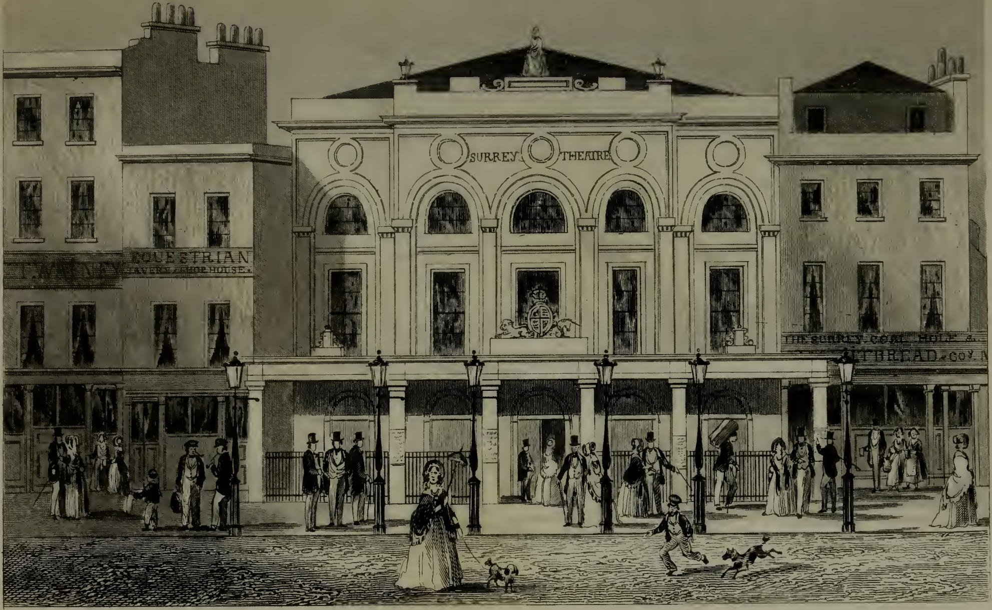
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EQUESTRIAN
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THE SURREY COAL HOLE &
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SURREY THEATRE

of the finest description of scenic art are to be witnessed, at the rate of one shilling each. Pompeii, Paris, Lima, Mexico, and other cities of public or historic interest have been represented here. The views are changed annually, sometimes oftener.

The *Gallery of Illustration*, 14, Regent-street, presents two moving panoramas—the Overland Route to India, and Our Native Land—each accompanied by appropriate music. The scenes depicted in the Overland Route—Malta, Cairo, Alexandria, the Desert, Calcutta, and the intermediate distances—are most effective in their character, and convey a forcible idea of the grandeur of the journey. In the panorama of Our Native Land, a striking contrast is offered, the tranquil pursuits and pastimes of British agriculture being delineated with a masterly touch.

Tussaud's Exhibition of Wax-work, in Baker-street, Portman-square, excels all other collections, and was formed by the late Madame Tussaud, who was personally attached to the suite of the unfortunate Marie Antoinette, Queen of France. The collection is a very extensive one, and is constantly receiving additions. Here are the images of characters both famous and infamous, attired in suitable costume. Kings, patriots, statesmen, generals, and poets, seem to be resuscitated, and among the eminent living represented here, are Queen Victoria, Wellington, and Lord John Russell. In an additional chamber, the carriage and other relics of Napoleon are exhibited, and among the French curiosities is the identical embroidered shirt worn by Henry IV. when he was fatally stabbed by the assassin, Ravaillac. The indentation of the dagger, and the stain of the monarch's life-blood, are visible on this costly garment. The *Chamber of Horrors* is a ghastly but curious addendum to the collection; herein are preserved casts of Robespierre, Marat, Hebert, Fieschi, and other human monsters who disgraced France by their revolutionary atrocities; also of Corder, Burke, Rush, the Mannings, and other notorious English murderers. While the general saloon is brilliantly illuminated, this receptacle of the images of great criminals is shrouded in appropriate gloom. In the spacious premises underneath the waxwork the *Grand Annual Cattle Show* is held.

The *Polytechnic Institution,* 309, Regent-street, to which we have previously made passing reference, was established in 1838, subsequently to which it was incorporated by royal charter. The building is 320 feet deep. Machinery and manufactures, illustrated by working models, occupy the entrance hall, above which is a theatre which will contain between 500 and 1,000 persons, where scientific lectures, illustrated on an extensive scale, are delivered by eminent professors. Here is also exhibited an oxy-hydrogen microscope of extraordinary powers. The great hall, 120 feet long, 40 feet wide, and 40 feet high, has in its centre two canals containing a surface of nearly 700 feet of water, attached to which are the apparata of docks, locks, &c. The diving-bell is likewise exhibited here. The hall is filled with specimens of natural history, philosophical apparatus, fine arts, raw materials, manufactured goods, and every description of machinery. In the evening, dissolving views are exhibited, and throughout the day the enjoyment of visitors is enhanced by the performance of fine music. The entrance-fee to this truly national exhibition does not exceed one shilling.

Another high source of gratification to the residents of the capital is derived from the numerous musical societies and clubs of which it is the arcanum. We have already named the operas, where first-class music is produced, and in the course of our metropolitan journey we have had occasion to describe places famous for vocal and instrumental music. Some notice of those musical côteries which have not hitherto come within the scope of our route, will not be unwelcome to the lover of sweet sounds.

The *Philharmonic Society,* a distinguished musical association, comprehends forty members and fifty associates, all of whom are professors, vocal or instrumental: twenty female associates of professional celebrity are also enrolled in this society. Its honorary members are chosen from the most renowned continental musicians. The Philharmonic band, which includes artists of the highest talent, is the finest in the world. The concerts take place in the Queen's Concert-rooms, Hanover-square, classical music being generally performed, as well as solos on different instruments. In 1829 that famous composer Mendelssohn, appeared in the orchestra of this society.

The *Sacred Harmonic Society* was founded in 1832, when the members assembled in the small room at Exeter Hall, and performed oratorios, anthems, masses, and music of like description, for the gratification of their friends, to whom they presented tickets of admission. Subsequently the society was enabled to take higher ground, and held its performances in the large hall, the amateurs receiving the assistance of many professional musicians. The works of Handel, Purcell, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Spohr, Mendelssohn, and other composers of sacred music, are here most effectively performed by an orchestra and choir of from six hundred to seven hundred persons. The admirable taste by which the concerts of the Sacred Harmonic Society are characterized, has rendered it most deservedly a favourite with the musical public.

The *Cecilian Society* is one of the most ancient musical associations in London; it was founded in 1785 for the practice and performance of sacred music. Entrance is obtained by members' tickets. Its concerts are held fortnightly in the Albion-hall, London-wall.

Besides these societies there are numerous madrigal and glee clubs, and other musical associations, accessible only to the members or their friends. We should, however, mention before dismissing this sketch, that at *Evans' Grand Hotel*, Covent-garden, the public are nightly admitted free, to an admirable performance of glees, madrigals and choruses, selected from Handel, Locke, Purcell, Green, Bishop, and other of our ancient and modern composers.

In addition to those exhibitions of pictorial art which have come under review in an earlier part of this work, the *Society of Painters in Water-Colours,* 53, Pall-Mall; the *Water-Colour Exhibition* in Pall-Mall East; and the *British Gallery,* Pall-Mall, have high attraction for the admirers of the fine arts.

The private picture galleries are numerous; to many of these the public are allowed access by the noble owners under certain regulations. Among the leading collections are those of the late Sir Robert Peel, the Bridgewater and Grosvenor galleries; and the paintings of the Duke of Sutherland and Mr. Hope.

CHAPTER XXI.

MISCELLANEOUS BUILDINGS.

As some of the illustrations in this work represent edifices which have either been raised since its commencement, or the situation of which lay out of the direct routes we have pursued, we purpose to devote a few pages to a brief review of the most prominent of such structures.

St. Peter's Hospital, Wandsworth, is better known to the general public under the name of the *Fishmongers' Almshouses.* The original almshouses were commenced in 1615 by Sir Thomas Hunt, who bequeathed an annual sum of £20 towards building and founding an hospital for poor men, and in 1617 a piece of ground was purchased for £120 by the company in Newington, Surrey, for the erection of the fabric. In 1617, twelve houses were built, and in 1633 six additional ones and a dining-hall. In 1721 John Hulbert left £9,467 to found an almshouse for twenty poor men and women; and altogether a range of forty-two houses was built, in the centre of a well-planted garden, surrounded by a dwarf wall. This building, which was opposite to that well-known inn, the Elephant and Castle, was originally far removed from town; but the once country locality having become the heart of a populous neighbourhood, it was deemed advisable that St. Peter's Hospital should occupy a site more in unison with the rural appearance which it presented a century ago. The old almshouses were taken down in 1851, the first stone of the new hospital having been laid in June, 1850, at East Hill, Wandsworth, by Mr. W. F. Vowler, the prime warden. The edifice is built after the designs of Mr. Richard Suter, architect to the company, and covers three sides of a quadrangle, 255 by 235 feet, the fourth side opening to the south and looking on the carriage road. The Tudor style is adopted, and the chimney shafts, which are large and lofty, form a prominent feature in the design. There are forty-two dwelling-houses, each comprehending three rooms, with distinct offices; also apartments for the medical officers, the clergyman, the paymaster and pensioners, and a chapel in the centre. The chief material employed in the structure is white Suffolk brick, and Caen-stone is used for the dressings. The entire premises, with garden, lawn, and shrubbery, occupy seven acres of ground. The cost of the building and plot of land on which it stands was about £25,000, and the liberal amount of £1,700 annually is expended in providing for the comfort of its inmates, whose new habitation is incomparably more eligible in situation and salubrity than their ancient abodes.

The *Printers' Almshouses,* situate at Wood-green, Tottenham, a beautifully picturesque locality, were founded as an asylum for decayed compositors or pressmen, warehousemen, machinists, stereotype-founders and pickers, and their wives. The first stone of this institution was laid in June, 1849, by Viscount Mahon, M.P. His lordship made an eloquent speech on the occasion, and remarked that " among the feelings which he was glad to see were gaining ground in every quarter, was one which he approved of in the highest degree, namely, a consideration for the increased welfare and comfort of the working classes. That had been too long neglected, or, as a kindred thought had been well expressed by one of England's best poets—

> "As when a stately pile is raised,
> We never hear the workmen praised
> Who mixed the lime or placed the stones;
> But all admire Inigo Jones."

He thought it not unnatural that any one engaged in literature should sometimes reflect with anxiety on the position and fate of those, without whose aid and talents his name and works would remain as a sealed book to his fellow-men. That feeling he had experienced as an author; but he had also felt the usefulness and talent of the printer in another capacity. It had often, as a member of Parliament, fallen to his lot to return to his home, weary and jaded, after a long and important debate, at three or four o'clock in the morning; and after resting himself five or six hours, he found on his breakfast-table the speeches of the previous evening accurately reported and carefully printed. He was then led to think on the skill and labour requisite to produce that result, and he could not help bearing his tribute of respect to the persons who were the instruments of laying the newspapers before him. When the reporter had done his work that of the printer commenced, and continued throughout the night, to make ready the publication of the next morning, and he felt that members of Parliament and others must allow, that toil such as that of the printer could not be free from producing infirmities, which it should be their greatest pleasure to relieve. On the one hand, it was a profession by which a man might cultivate his mind and rise to the highest honours, as in the case of Benjamin Franklin. It must be remembered to his lasting honour that, by his skill, exertion, and frugality, he had raised himself from a journeyman printer to be one of the greatest statesmen of his country. He wished them every prosperity, and he trusted that the future inmates of the institution would be enabled to pass the close of their lives in peace and happiness, with a grateful sense of the generosity and kindness of those who had founded their home, and be enabled to look back with pleasure to a well-spent life, and forward to the hope of a blessed eternity."

Lady Owen's Almshouses and School were founded in 1610, for the maintenance of an equal number of poor women of Islington and Clerkenwell, and for the education of poor boys. The original revenues increased so much in the course of that time, that the almshouses were increased to provide accommodation for 14 poor women, and the school provided education for 120 boys. The benevolent foundress, who was the wife of three husbands, is buried in the parish church of Islington, where a tablet commemorates her charities. The present structures, which occupy a plot of ground forming a short street between Goswell-road and St. John's-road, called Lady Owen's-row, are built of red brick in the Elizabethan style, after the designs of the late Mr. George Tattersall.

The *Infant Orphan Asylum, Wanstead,* instituted in 1827, and incorporated in 1843, was founded for the reception of orphan children, from the earliest period of life up to the age of seven years. Infants who have lost both parents, or the father only, are eligible as inmates. This charity undertakes the entire charge of the children until their age renders them suitable candidates for admission into Christ's Hospital, the London Orphan Asylum, the Clergy Orphan School, or similar institutions. Moreover, it retains such proportion as the finances may admit; the boys until fourteen, and the girls until fifteen years of age. Eighty children are received into this asylum every year; that is, forty at each half-yearly election. Its locality, Wanstead, in Essex, is seven miles from the city, and it is supported by a numerous body of subscribers, who vote at the half-annual election of children.

The *Orphan Working School*, at Haverstock-hill, Hampstead-road, is a charity of similar character. It was established at Hoxton, in 1758, for 20 boys, and afterwards removed to the City-road, where accommodation was provided for 35 boys and 35 girls. The present structure at Haverstock-hill was erected in 1847, and within its hospitable walls 240 children are clothed and entirely maintained till they reach the age of fourteen. For nine years previous to 1851, about 16 children were admitted annually, but in the last-named year, no fewer than 40 were received.

The *County Lunatic Asylum*, at *Colney Hatch*, Middlesex, is pleasantly situate on the line of the Great Northern Railway, Colney Hatch being the next station to Hornsey. It having been found that the institution at Hanwell was only large enough for half the county patients, the present edifice was erected, at a cost of £138,000. The first stone was laid on the 8th of May, 1849, and on the 17th of July, 1850, the first patient was received. It contains more than 1,000 inmates, for whose comfort and recreation, all those excellent arrangements which we have described as existing at Hanwell, prevail.

New Billinsgate Market, one of the most elegant, as well as one of the most recent of the metropolitan structures, was erected after the designs of Mr. Bunning, the city architect, in 1852. Mr. Jay was the contractor, and the cost was about £20,000. We have, in another part of this work, enlarged upon old Billinsgate Market and its antecedents, to which the new edifice forms a striking contrast. Mr. Bunning suggested that the site of Billinsgate dock should be enclosed, whereby the area of the market could be much extended, and the means of forming a sub-market for shell-fish provided. This plan was carried into effect by the construction of a river-wall, of Hayter granite, the foundation of which was carried to the depth of 14 feet below the river soil, without the aid of a coffer-dam. The Thames front of the new market is of red brick and Portland stone, but the columns of the arcade and the ornamental panel above are composed of cast-iron. The clock-tower is furnished with a clock, containing four illuminated dials, each five feet in diameter; and the belfry contains a market and high-water bell, and the clock bells. Offices are provided for the clerk of the market, oyster-tasters, fish inspectors, and other officials, in the wings of the buildings. The market roofing is of galvanised corrugated iron, in a semicircular shape, sustained by light cast-iron columns and girders; with skylights towards the north, glazed with ground plate-glass. That portion of the market adjoining Thames-street contains a warehouse for the reception of dried fish. The ventilation is effected by a centrifugal exhausting machine, and the cleansing by Bessemer's centrifugal pump. So instantaneous is the former process, that 50,000 cubic feet of foul air are removed per minute, the space previously filled by which is at once reoccupied with pure air from the open court, adjacent to the Thames. By the pump, two tons of water per minute are lifted 35 feet high from filters in the bed of the Thames, and then to a fountain in the upper market; while a large quantity of unfiltered water is raised from the river, and circulated through a series of covered gutters in both markets, to carry off the drainage from the stalls.

Prince Albert's Model Houses.—Most of the visitors to the Exhibition, upon quitting that region of wonders, made a tour of inspection to two model houses, constructed after the plans of Prince Albert, for four families, and adjacent to the cavalry barracks at Knightsbridge. The leading feature of the design was that of the receding and protected open central staircase, with the connecting gallery on the first floor, composed of slate, and protected from the weather by the continuation of the main roof, which also screens the entrances to the dwellings.—The four tenements are arranged on precisely the same plan, two on each floor. The entrance is through a small lobby, lighted from the upper part of the door. Each residence contains a living-room, a scullery, and three bed-chambers, to each of which there is distinct access, and a window, and they are provided with the most improved machinery for securing a constant supply of pure air and water. Hollow bricks are exclusively used for the walls and partitions; and neither in the floors nor roof is any timber used, for they are formed with flat arches of hollow bricks, rising from eight to nine inches, set in cement, and tied in by wrought-iron works, connected with cast-iron springers, which rest on the outward walls, and bind the whole structure together; whereby the edifice is rendered fireproof, and much less subject to decay than those of ordinary construction. The floors, where not of Portland cement, are laid with Staffordshire tiles, except on the right-hand room, which is of lava. The coping is of Portland cement. The external string-courses, and internal cornices, are of patent bonded brick, set in Portland stone, with the splayed side outwards.

Several new churches which are not named in the text, are sufficiently described by the illustrations themselves.

CHAPTER XXII.

DISTINGUISHED LORD MAYORS OF LONDON.

In a work devoted to record all that is worthy of notice in the metropolis, a brief notice of the most eminent functionaries who have held the civic chair, will not be without attraction, for those who take an interest in the chronicles of London's progress.

In 1239, William Joiner, mayor, built the choir of the Grey-friars church in London, and became a lay brother of that house. Henry Wallis, in1282, built the Tun, in Cornhill, to be a prison. Sir John Pultney, in the reign of Edward III., founded a college in the parish church of St. Lawrence, Pountney, by Candlewick-street. In 1356, Henry Picard feasted the kings of England, France, Cyprus, and Scotland, with other great personages, in one day. In 1366, John Loufkin built the parish church of St. Michael in Crooked-lane, lately taken down to facilitate the city improvements.

Sir William Walworth, lord mayor in 1374, in 1380, and in 1381, received the honour of knighthood for his gallant behaviour in arresting Wat Tyler, whose rebellion he ultimately crushed, by depriving the traitor of life. This famous citizen enlarged the parish church of St. Michael in Crooked-lane, and founded a college there. In 1387, Nicholas Brambar, late lord mayor of London, was decapitated. In 1390, Adam Bamme provided from beyond the seas, corn in great abundance, so that the city was able to serve the country. John Hind, in 1404, built the parish church of St. Swithin, by London-stone. Sir Drew Barrington, in 1408, erected part of Goldsmiths'-hall, and gave land to the company. Sir Thomas Knoles, in 1410, began to rebuild the Guildhall. Sir Thomas Falkener, in 1414, caused the postern, called Moorgate, to be raised. Sir Henry Barton, in 1416, ordered lanterns, with lights, to be hung out on the winter evenings between Hallon-tide and Candlemas.

Sir Richard Whittington, the lord mayor of London three times, and the popular hero of civic fable, founded, in 1419, Whittington College. In 1438, wheat was sold for 3*s*. a bushel, but Sir Stephen Brown, mayor in that year, sent into Prussia, and caused to be brought thence several ships freighted with rye, which caused great relief in the extreme necessity that prevailed. In 1445, Sir Simon Eyre built the Leadenhall to be a common garner for the city. In 1453, Sir John Norman was mayor. He was the first chief magistrate that went by water to Westminster to take the oath, for before that time they rode on horseback. He caused a barge to be made at his own cost, and each company had barges well decked and trimmed, to pass along with him. In 1457 Sir Godfrey Boleine gave £1,000 to poor householders in London. In 1462, 1463, and 1464, Sir Thomas Cooke, Sir Matthew Phillips, and Sir Ralph Joceline, mayors in those respective years, were made Knights of the Bath by Edward IV. on the field of battle. In 1479 Sir Bartholomew James received a similar distinction from the same sovereign. Sir Edmund Shaa, in 1482, built the postern called Cripplegate. King Richard III. called him his merchant, and sold to him 275 lbs. of his plate for the sum of £550 : 13*s*. 4*d*. Sir Hugh Clapton, mayor in 1491, built the great stone bridge at Stratford-on-Avon. Sir William Capel, mayor in 1503, first ordered a cage to be set up in every ward for the punishment of vagabonds. Sir Thomas Knesworth, mayor in 1505, built the water conduit at Bishopsgate. Sir Stephen Jennings, in 1508, built a free school at Wolverhampton, and the greater part of St. Andrew's church, called Undershaft. Sir Roger Acheley, in 1511, provided abundance of corn for the service of the city, and stored up the same in the common garner called Leadenhall. Sir William Hewet, mayor in 1559, married his daughter to Osborne, his apprentice, who had rescued her from drowning in her infancy, and from this union sprang the ducal house of Leeds. Sir William Turner, mayor in 1669, founded and endowed, during his lifetime, an hospital at Kirk Leedham, Yorkshire, for the maintenance of ten old men, ten old women, and the education and support of ten boys and ten girls. To each inmate he allowed 2*s*. 6*d*. a-week; the boys, when they left the school, at the age of seventeen or eighteen, were to have £3 for clothes, and seven years afterwards, if not married, were to receive £7 more; and the like benefit to the girls. At Midsummer-day, when the inmates received their wearing apparel, they were to walk in procession round the church, and sing the psalm, "Blessed the man that careful is." Sir John Moore, mayor in 1682, founded a free school at

Appleby. Sir Robert Jeffery, who was mayor in 1686, and is buried in St. Dionis Back Church, left £400 for prayers to be said daily there.

In 1771 Brass Crosby, Esq., was sent to the Tower by the House of Commons, for committing their messenger. To commemorate the spirited conduct of this mayor, the Obelisk in St. George's-fields was erected. The subsequent lord mayors of London have been chiefly memorable as examples of industry, perseverance, and hospitality.

CHAPTER XXIII.

METROPOLITAN MEMORANDA.

In the early part of this work we have given some statistical details bearing upon the immensity of our monster capital, and this book itself, epitome though it be, cannot fail to convey some idea of the vast resources of London, and of the numberless industrial pursuits of which it is the stage. It will not, perhaps, be uninteresting, before balancing our books, and making them ready for that impartial auditor, the public, to see how far our views of the great city correspond with those of other writers on this fertile theme.

The author of *Babylon the Great* says:—"In its topographical distribution, London is anything which you wish to call it; and if you would mention the description or employment of the people among whom you would wish to live, one could lay one's finger upon the map, and say, 'There shall be your residence;' for among the many thousand squares, and streets, and lanes, and courts, which lodge its varied inhabitants, it is impossible not find one where your neighbours shall be your equals; similar in employments, in habits, and in tastes, and marked by the same graces or the same deformities. If you love social gaiety, all the elements of enjoyment are within your reach; and if you love retirement, you may be as recluse and solitary as though you were in a desert. Notwithstanding the crowds by whom you must every day be elbowed, you may pass through them as unheeded as you would be by the trees of a forest, and the billows of the ocean; and though in one vigorous day's journey you might encompass nearly 2,000,000 human beings, yet it might be possible for you to spend your whole life among them, without any of them so much as asking your name.

"This mighty place is at once the grand arena for the ambitious, and the grand sanctuary for the destitute. If hope be still green, the powers still vigorous, and if the desire of wealth and honour have not been deadened by the experiences of life, then London is resorted to as the place in which to succeed and to shine; or, if the spirit has been broken through disappointment, and the heart has become sick through misfortune, then London is the place where a man may best hide his misery in oblivion, or forget all that he has suffered, and begin the world anew.

"The extremes in every point of view are daily to be met with in the metropolis, from the most rigid, persevering, never-tiring industry, to the most abject sloth and laziness; the greatest love and contempt for money; and in no place are pleasure and business so much united as in London. Indeed, the metropolis is a complete cyclopædia, where every man of every sect or habit may find something to please his palate, regulate his taste, suit his pocket, enlarge his mind, and make him happy."

The late Sir Humphry Davy thus describes the impressions received on entering London:—"In my youth, and through my prime of manhood, I never entered it without feelings of pleasure and hope. It was to me as the grand theatre of intellectual activity, the field of every species of enterprise and exertion, the metropolis of the world of business, thought, and action. There I was sure to find the friends and companions of my youth—to hear the voice of encouragement and praise. There society of the most refined kind offered daily its banquets to the mind, with such variety, that wearisomeness had no place in them; and new objects of interest and ambition were constantly exciting attention, either in politics, literature, or science."

John Fisher Murray thus writes:—"We find London somehow or other connected with whatever in art astonishes, pleases, or improves. London is not merely a *place*, it is an abstraction, a connecting and a necessary link in our chain of thought, upon all subjects worth a thought; it is the workshop of artificers in mind, their storehouse, their market, their solace, and their reward; the centre of great and important changes in the political and social history of man; the focus to which rays of intelligence from the farthest horizon of earth converge, concentrate, and are reflected back again upon the public mind; not merely our fashions, luxuries, tastes, are thence imported, but our opinions come 'cut and dry' from London; we are dictated to from London, in London we are governed, they make our laws in London; in short, London is the head, the brain, the heart, the noble *viscus* of our body politic, and we in the provinces are but out-lying extremities, subsidiary, secondary; we are hardly allowed to know whether our toes are cold until we are so instructed by leading articles from London."*

"Stay in London all the autumn," says another writer. "Some thousands of idlers are gone, but all that is serious and earnest, and laborious, and productive, and important, and mighty in humanity is here still. The million is not gone. Looms are at work, steam-engines are at work, printing-presses are at work, brains are at work—eyes, hands and feet are all employed. The Thames flows not with a more full and unbroken current, than does the tide of the civic population; that tide is never at an ebb; ever its multitudinous billows are rolling on, and bearing their freight of power, wealth, and pleasure. Nor is the vacating of

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* *The World of London.*

London by the distinguished few anything near so general as it is assumed to be. The exception in any other city would make a splendid generality. There are always men in London, an hour with whom would be worth a journey from the Antipodes."*

London, by midnight, is forcibly pourtrayed by Montgomery, in the following verse:—

"The fret and fever of the day are o'er,
And London slumbers, but with murmurs faint,
Like Ocean, when she folds her waves to sleep.
How noiseless are the streets! a few hours gone
And all was fierce commotion.
And who shall paint the midnight scenes of life
In this vast city?—mart of human kind!
Some weary wrecks of woe are lapped in sleep,
And blessed in dreams, whose day-life was a curse
Some, heart-racked, rolled upon a sleepless couch,
And from the heated brain create a hell
Of agonising thoughts and ghastly fears;
While pleasure's moths, around the golden glare
Of princely halls dance off the dull-winged hours."

We close this chapter with an exquisite description of London in slumber, composed by Wordsworth, the late venerable poet-laureate, on Westminster Bridge. It presents a most striking contrast to the noise and turmoil of the capital by day.

"Earth has not any thing to show more fair;
Dull would he be of soul who could pass by
A sight so touching in its majesty:
This City now doth, like a garment wear
The beauty of the morning; silent, bare,
Ships, towers, domes, theatres and temples lie
Open unto the fields, and to the sky;
All bright and glittering in the smokeless air
Never did sun more beautifully steep
In his first splendour, valley, rock, or hill;
Ne'er saw I, never felt a calm so deep!
The river glideth at his own sweet will:
Dear God! the very houses seem asleep;
And all that mighty heart is lying still!"

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* *Monthly Repository.*

CHAPTER XXIV.

THE GREAT EXHIBITION OF THE WORKS OF INDUSTRY OF ALL NATIONS.

THE *Crystal Palace* still stands in Rotten-row, that glittering fabric which arose with almost the rapidity of Aladdin's magic mansion, and which certainly rivalled in its wondrous contents those which are described as having added splendour to the edifice of enchantment. Though no genii of the lamp or the ring contributed to its varied stores, the genius of Industry, and the genius of Art, sent from all quarters of the earth their rarest productions to be hived in this National Exchange of the World. But Time, who is no less unceremonious in his dealings with things than with persons, who destroys alike the worthless and the valuable, the beautiful and the unsightly, has scattered that rare collection, unequalled for extent and character, which so lately found a fitting shrine in the Crystal Palace, and which enthralled the attention and gratified the taste of millions of visitants of every clime, of every class, of every creed. The treasures of the Exhibition are dispersed—some gone to enrich the galleries and the mansions of the noble and the affluent—others reclaimed by their ingenious fabricators. But though the gems be gone, the casket remains, a brilliant memorial of the year 1851; and the question of its future destiny,—whether appropriated to purposes of general utility, this chronicle of British enterprise and liberality is to be preserved; or whether, regardless of the bright memories identified with it, it is "like the baseless fabric of a vision," to fade into nothingness,— is one left to the arbitration of the public, and which they will be called upon to resolve by their representatives in parliament.

There are connected with the Exhibition some recollection, of a more common-place nature, recollections which the lovers of pelf regret they cannot coin into realities. In anticipation of the great influx of foreigners and country visitors, which this industrial display would assemble together in the metropolis of England, every locomotive aid and appliance, every domicile, known under the style and title of hotel, tavern, inn, public-house, coffee-house, and boarding-house, summoned their utmost resources into play, in order to reap an abundant metallic harvest from the legions who were expected to encamp in London during the season of 1851.

The railways, alone, sought to gain patronage, and did gain it by adapting their fares to the pecuniary exigencies of their supporters. Instead of taking advantage of the universal desire felt by high and low, rich and poor, old and young, to see the Exhibition, to increase their charges, they lowered them considerably, granting return tickets to persons visiting the Exhibition, such tickets being mostly available for a fortnight. One instance of the extraordinary reduction of prices in these Exhibition trains will give some idea of the praiseworthy manner in which the railway directors provided cheap accommodation for the people at large. On the Great Northern Railway, return tickets from Peterborough to London, a distance of seventy-six miles, were issued to third-class passengers for three shillings; the holders thereof having the privilege of remaining in the metropolis for a fortnight: thus the charge for travelling one hundred and fifty-two miles was at the rate of about a farthing a mile. The omnibuses and the river steam-boats did not follow the liberal examples of the railways. Many additional omnibuses, some of an entirely new construction, were started, to convey the human tide which moved in the direction of the Exhibition, the tops of these vehicles being crowded with more passengers than in seasons of less excitement occupy both the inside and outside. The threepenny omnibuses, even those which did not go within miles of the Crystal Palace, raised their fares to four-pence, and the Citizen and Iron boats, to show their gratitude for the liberal support of the public, advanced their prices from twopence to threepence. Nevertheless, perhaps on the principle enunciated by Hudibras—

> "The pleasure is as great,
> In being cheated as to cheat."

eager crowds crammed the omnibuses, which rattled through the streets from early in the morning till late at night, the great majority of them inscribed with the attractive word "Exhibition." Never before did the London streets echo the steps of so many holiday-makers; business stood still, or rather the only business of the day seemed to be visiting the Exhibition, and its attractions the only colloquial topic. Persons took houses, and furnished them expensively for the accommodation of the pleasure-seeking multitude; while others, forgetting the old saying of "a bird in the hand," &c., evacuated their lodgers to make room for the imaginary advent of others who they thought would fling away money after the fashion of Haroun al Rachid—in short, the wary letters of lodgings were upon the alert, not only "to buy in the cheapest, but to sell in the dearest market." They, doubtless, had heard that occasionally at Ascot or Epsom a shilling had been offered for a glass of water, and a guinea for a pint of beer, and they probably anticipated realizing the fabulous profits of those famous fields of jockeyism. None, probably accomplished these exaggerated notions of extortion; many found out, too late, that the supply exceeded the demand; but all, if they did not gain money, gained, what the sages tell us is better, experience. On their heedless speculation we need make no further commentary; that, at the close of the Exhibition, was most disagreeably supplied by the auctioneer's hammer. And after October, 1851, it was curious to observe how, like flies at the approach of winter, the supernumerary omnibuses disappeared, while those upon the regular lines of road, not merely resumed their original fares, but gradually declined to a lower scale. Fleet-street, the Strand, Cheapside, Holborn, Regent-street, and Oxford-street, though at all times crowded thoroughfares, seemed deserted and silent highways in the winter, contrasted with the full stream of population which thronged them during the summer and autumn months.

Most amusing, too, were the apprehensions expressed by certain alarmists that the Crystal Palace would become the chamber of conspiracies against our sovereign lady the Queen; that gunpowder plots and infernal machines were therein to explode, to the dismay and confusion of all well-disposed and peaceable persons, and to the delight and profit of the red republicans, socialists, and others, willing to light the torch of civil discord. Barring the hum of many voices, and the whirling of innumerable wheels, the Exhibition passed off quietly enough, not even presenting a single incident flattering to the prophetic powers of the croakers, who fancied that the Exhibition, in its results, would present a second edition of Belshazzar's Feast.

We proceed to give a brief history of the Great Exhibition of the Works of Industry of All Nations.

The credit of originating the Great Exhibition is due to Prince Albert, who, in his capacity as President of the Society of Arts, suggested the organization of a National Exhibition, for the reception of industrial products from all the nations of the earth. The society gave their sanction to the proposition, and several public meetings were held, when the project was made known to the community at large, by whom it was most cordially adopted. On the 30th of June, 1849, several members of the Society of Arts assembled at Buckingham Palace, when the following arrangements in regard to the specimens to be furnished were made:—"To consist of four sections,—1. Raw materials and produce, illustrative of those material productions on which human ingenuity is employed.—2. Machinery for agricultural, manufacturing, engineering, and other purposes, and mechanical inventions; illustrative of the agency which human ingenuity brings to bear upon the products of nature.—3. Manufactures; illustrative of the same process of industrial operation.—4. Sculpture, models, and the plastic arts generally, illustrative of the taste and skill displayed in such applications of human industry."

It was eventually determined, not however without considerable opposition from the distinguished residents in the neighbourhood, that the edifice wherein the contributions from all parts of the globe should be deposited, should be built upon a vacant spot in Hyde Park, parallel with, and between the Kensington drive, and the fashionable equestrian resort, Rotten-row.

The Royal Commission was issued on the 3rd of June, 1850, and it was resolved that the Exhibition should be opened in 1851, the sum of £20,000 being deposited with trustees for distribution in prizes; and it was further settled that the Exhibition should be self-supporting, its cost to be defrayed by voluntary subscriptions and the receipts.

Early in 1850, the Building Committee of the Royal Commission advertised for plans for the edifice in which the Exhibition was to take place. No fewer than 245 designs were sent in, but not one was accepted. Subsequently the design of the Crystal Palace was laid before them by Mr. Paxton, the chief gardener to the Duke of Devonshire, and its beauty and gracefulness met with universal admiration. The building was an immense parallelogram, 1,851 feet long, by 456 feet broad, in the widest part. The transept, which intersected it in the centre, was 108 feet high, 408 feet long, and 72 feet wide. The other part of the structure was composed of three stories, each receding 24 feet from the other, and each being 24 feet high. The extreme height in the centre was 72 feet. Thus the columns were 24 feet high, and 8 feet apart; the centre aisle 72 feet wide; those on each side 48 feet wide, and the narrower ones, 24 feet. Messrs. Fox and Henderson, of Birmingham, were the contractors. Their estimate was £74,800 if the material were surrendered to them after the Exhibition; or £150,000 if the building remained. Their tender was verbally accepted on the

26th of July, 1850; possession of the site was obtained four days afterwards, on the 30th. The building was so far completed that, on the 1st of January, 1851, it was handed over to the Royal Commissioners.

Iron, wood, and glass, were alone used in the construction; the upper portions being glazed throughout; and the edifice formed an immense frame, the columns being united together at the tops by girders, and under the earth by hollow pipes. Of cast-iron girders, there were 2,244 for supporting galleries and roofs; 1,128 intermediate bearers; 358 wrought-iron trusses for supporting roof; 3,230 columns; 44 miles of gutters for carrying water to the columns, which were hollow, and served as water pipes; 202 miles of sash bars, and 900,000 superficial feet of glass.

The following extracts are from the report of the proceedings of the Royal Commissioners, read to Her Majesty by H. R. H. Prince Albert, on the opening-day of the Crystal Palace:—"Your Majesty's most gracious donation to the funds of the Exhibition was the signal for voluntary contributions from all, even the humblest classes of your subjects, and the funds thus placed at our disposal amount to about £65,000. The number of exhibitors whose productions it has been found possible to accommodate is about 15,000, of whom nearly one-half are British. The remainder represent the productions of more than forty foreign countries, comprising almost the whole of the civilized nations of the globe. Your Majesty will find the productions of your Majesty's dominions arranged in the western portion of the building, and those of foreign countries in the eastern. The Exhibition is divided into the four great classes of—1. Raw Materials; 2. Machinery; 3. Manufactures; and 4. Sculpture and the Fine Arts. A further division has been made according to the geographic position of the countries represented; those which lie within the warmer latitudes being placed near the centre of the building, and the colder countries at the extremities. Your Majesty having been graciously pleased to grant a site in this your Royal Park for the purposes of the Exhibition, the first column of the structure now honoured by your Majesty's presence was fixed on the 26th of September last. Within the short period, therefore, of seven months, owing to the energy of the contractors, and the active industry of the workmen employed by them, a building has been erected, entirely novel in its construction, covering a space of more than 18 acres, measuring 1,851 feet in length, and 456 in extreme breadth, capable of containing 40,000 visitors, and affording a frontage for the exhibition of goods to the extent of more than 10 miles. With regard to the distribution of rewards to deserving exhibitors, we have decided that they should be given in the form of medals, not with reference to merely individual competition, but as rewards for excellence in whatever shape it may present itself. The selection of persons to be so rewarded has been entrusted to juries equally composed of British subjects and foreigners. The names of these jurors, comprising, as they do, many of European celebrity, afford the best guarantee of the impartiality with which the rewards will be assigned. It is our heartfelt prayer that this undertaking, which has for its end the promotion of all branches of human industry, and the strengthening of the bonds of peace and friendship among all nations of the earth, may, by the blessing of Divine Providence, conduce to the welfare of your Majesty's people, and be long remembered among the brightest circumstances of your Majesty's peaceful and happy reign."

THE OPENING OF THE GREAT EXHIBITION.

A memorable day in the annals of 1851 was the first of May, the day appointed by her majesty for the opening of the great National Exhibition, the inaugurative pageant of which was one of surpassing splendour. Never was sovereign upheld by the loyal feelings of a greater mass of people, and never had republicans and anarchists a stronger proof of England's devotion to the monarchical principle. Nothing could be more touching or more spontaneous than was the honest domestic delight which hailed the Queen and her husband as they joined the procession, the royal mother holding by the hand, the prince of Wales; and her consort the princess royal. The building itself, with its stores of everything rich and useful the earth and the ingenuity of man could yield, produced an effect upon the visitor which no words can adequately describe. A chair selected from the Indian collection, and over which a magnificent scarlet velvet elephant cloth, richly brocaded, was placed as a covering, served as a throne. In front of the raised dais on which it was placed, arose the splendid crystal fountain of Mr. Osler, the appropriate centre-piece of a palace of glass. This object had previously been concealed from public view. It was twenty-seven feet high, and contained four tons of crystal.

Such a spectacle as an edifice eighteen hundred and fifty-one feet in length, lined with rows of spectators from end to end, had perhaps never before been seen. Just at the entrance of the arch of the transept, a lofty and branching elm was seen, and near the opposite end were two others of the same stature, in the perfection of their foliage, and imparting a delicious freshness to the scene. Beneath these noble forest-trees of England were numerous palms, bending their fan-like foliage as if in homage; and on the floor was a brilliant display of azalias and many other flowering plants in full blow. Never was beheld in the world such a museum of the products of industry and of the instruments of production; and it is almost safe to predict that such another will be never again witnessed. Of the universal character of this national collection it was worthily written:—

Imperial England draws
The flowing ends of the earth, from Fez, Canton,
Delhi and Stockholm, Athens and Madrid,
The Russias and the vast Americas,

As a queen gathers in her robes amid
Her golden cincture,—isles, peninsulas,
Capes, continents, far inland countries hid
By jasper sands and hills of chrysopras,
All trailing in their splendour through the door
Of the new Crystal Palace. Every nation,
To every nation, strange of yore,
Doth face to face give civic salutation,
And hold up in a proud right hand before
That congress, the best work which she could fashion
By her best means.*

Towards 12 o'clock the faint huzzas of the crowds outside announced that the Queen had arrived; and soon afterwards a loud flourish of trumpets from the north gallery of the transept proclaimed that her majesty had entered the building. The Queen wore a dress of pink watered silk, brocaded with silver, trimmed with pink ribands and blonde, and ornamented with diamonds. Diamonds and feathers formed the head dress. Her Majesty wore the Riband and George of the Order of the Garter, and the Garter of the Order as an armlet. She was forthwith conducted to the robing room, whence after a short interval, attended by her court, she proceeded between flower stands and tropical plants, passed the Colebrook-dale gates, and the fountains and statuary, to the throne in the centre. On her appearance, the vast assemblage rose to welcome her, and greeted their queen most enthusiastically. When Her Majesty ascended the throne, attended by the royal family and distinguished visitors of her court, the mighty organ of Messrs. Gray and Davison pealed forth the notes of the national anthem, and the immense choir collected for the occasion accompanied the strain. As soon as the music ceased, His Royal Highness joined the other commissioners and read to the Queen a report of the proceedings of the Commission, the leading passages in which we have given in the earlier part of this narrative, in order to show at a glance the objects of the Exhibition, and the progress made in the construction of the Crystal Palace. Her Majesty having returned an appropriate reply, the archbishop of Canterbury approached the throne, and with great fervency of manner offered up a prayer invoking the blessing of the Almighty on the undertaking. At the close of the prayer the choir joined in singing the hallelujah chorus, the vocal strength including the singers of the Chapel Royal, St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, and St. George's Chapel, Windsor, aided by the pupils of the Royal Academy of Music, part of the band of the Sacred Harmonic Society, and many other performers, both foreign and English. The vast area of the building left free scope for the volume of sound poured forth, and the assembled multitudes, their feelings already elated by the grandeur of the spectacle before them, listened with becoming reverence to the triumphant music of the great German composer. A procession then formed, heralds preceding it, and followed by the contractors of the building (Messrs. Fox and Henderson), the architect (now sir Joseph Paxton), the financial officer, the members of the building and finance committees, the secretary to the executive committee (Matthew Digby Wyatt, Esq.,) the executive committee, the foreign acting commissioners, the secretaries to the royal commission, the special commissioners, her majesty's commissioners, the foreign ambassadors and ministers, her majesty's ministers, the bishop of Winchester, the archbishop of Canterbury, the officers of the household, and garter principal king-at-arms. Then came the QUEEN, leading his royal highness the prince of Wales; prince Albert leading her royal highness the princess royal; the duchess of Kent; the prince and princess of Prussia; prince Henry of the Netherlands; prince Frederick William of Prussia; princess Mary of Cambridge; the duke of Cambridge; prince Edward of Saxe Weimar, and the distinguished members of her majesty's court. The procession having perambulated the entire building amid the enthusiastic manifestations of good-will, the marquis of Breadalbane in a loud tone of voice proclaimed that the Queen declared "the Exhibition open," an intimation still more sonorously conveyed to the assembled multitude by a flourish of trumpets. The royal family, attended by the court, then withdrew from the Crystal to return to Buckingham Palace, and the barriers being withdrawn, the expectant thousands who were anxiously waiting to witness the splendours of the edifice, at the opening of which royalty had deigned to preside, were at once admitted into this repertory of all that the world's ingenuity could produce.

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* Mrs. E. B. Browning.

APPROACHES TO THE EXHIBITION.

There were four exits at the east end, four at the west, and six on the south side. The main entrances were three in number—one at the south end of the transept, nearly opposite the Prince of Wales's Gate, richly ornamented, extending along its entire breadth, with seven pairs of doors, each eight feet span; the other entrances were at the ends of the centre aisle, each with nine doors of a similar width.

THE CHARGES OF ADMISSION.

The executive committee fixed upon the following scale of charges for admission:—Season tickets for gentlemen, £3 : 3*s.*; season tickets for ladies, £2 : 2*s.* On the first day of exhibition, season tickets only were available, and no money was received at the doors of entrance on that day. On the second and third days the price of admission on entrance was, each day, £1; on the fourth day of exhibition, the 5th of May, 5*s.*; reduced on the twenty-second day, the 26th of May, to 1*s.* From the 26th of May the prices of admission were as follows:—On Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays in each week, 1*s.*; on Fridays, 2*s.* 6*d.*; on Saturdays, 5*s.* The commissioners reserved to themselves the power of raising the price of season tickets, should circumstances render it desirable. This power they attempted to exercise when the official announcement, on the 24th of April, was made of her Majesty's intention to open the Exhibition in person. In four days the sale of season tickets advanced from 7,000 to between 11,000 and 12,000; and so overwhelming was the demand, that the commissioners thought it necessary to check it, by raising the prices to three guineas for ladies, and four guineas for gentlemen. His Royal Highness Prince Albert intimated his wish that the old arrangement should still be carried out, and his view of the matter was of course adopted.

THE CONTENTS OF THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

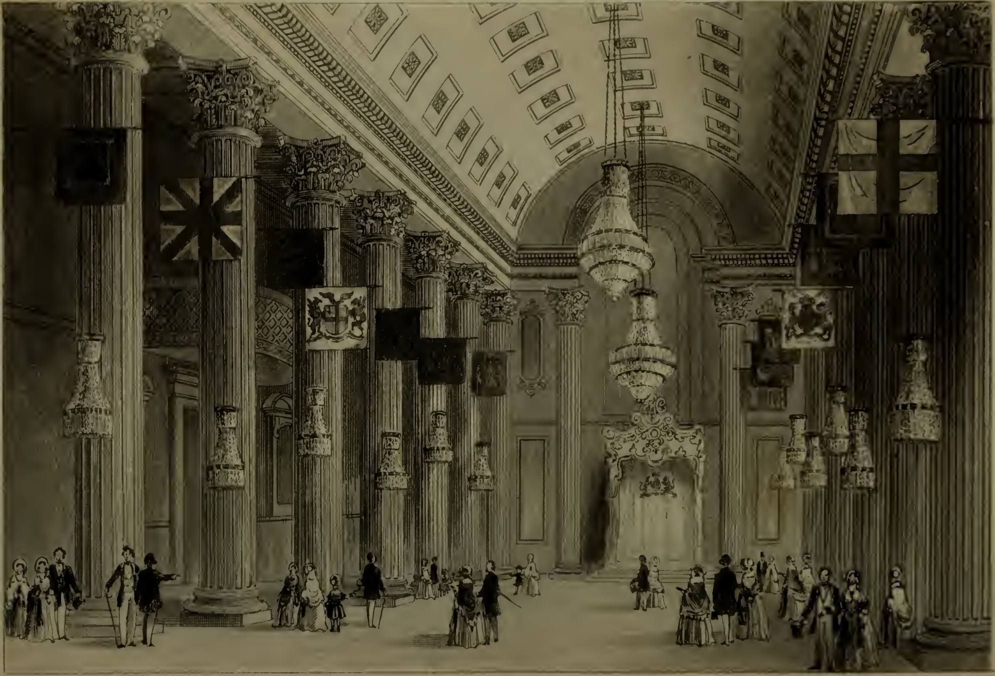
To particularize the unparalleled assemblage of rare and beautiful objects collected from all parts of the world, beneath the stupendous but elegant edifice of the Industrial Exhibition, would indeed be a voluminous task, to be achieved only within the scope of a goodly quarto or folio volume. We must, therefore, content ourselves with a brief review of some of the most prominent features among the manifold contributions to the Palace of Glass. The articles exhibited by the Queen and the Prince of Wales, merit the first notice. Her Majesty contributed the following:—In the main avenue (east), portrait of her Majesty on Sevres china, size of life, half length, by A. Ducluzeau, after a portrait by F. Winterhalter; portrait of Prince Albert, on Sevres china, size of life, half length, painted by A. Bezanget, after a portrait by F. Winterhalter; and the great diamond of Runjeet Singh, called "Koh-i-Noor, or Mountain of Light," and valued at £2,000,000, exhibited in a gilded cage. Unsuccessful attempts were made to enhance its brilliancy by lighting it with gas. Its comparative dullness arises from the unskilful manner in which it has been cut; a defect for which Runjeet Singh decapitated the unlucky lapidary. Upon touching a spring, the platform whereon the gem was mounted descended with its precious burden into an iron box embedded in masonry, and secured by one of Chubb's patent locks. In the Fine Art Court, a jewel-case, in the cinque-cento style, designed by L. Gruner, Esq., and executed at the manufactory of Mr. Henry Elkington, at Birmingham. The material was bronze, gilt and silvered by electrotype process; upon this case were portraits on china of her Majesty, Prince Albert, and the Prince of Wales, copied from miniatures. The small medallions represented profiles of their Royal Highnesses the Princes and Princesses. Table of gold and silver electro-plate, manufactured by Messrs. Elkington. The top of the table was an electrotype reproduction of a plate of fine workmanship, obtained and copied for Mr. H. Elkington, under the direction of the Chevalier Schlick. The eight subjects in bas-relief represented Minerva, Astrologia, Geometrica, Arithmetica, Musica, Rhetorica. The centre figure represented Temperance surrounded by the four elements. At the bottom of this plate was an inscription pointing to the artist. The table was designed by George Stanton, a student in the Birmingham School of Design. A cradle, carved in Turkey boxwood, symbolising the union of the royal house of England with that of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha. One end exhibits in the centre the armorial bearings of her Majesty the Queen, surrounded by masses of foliage, natural flowers and birds. On the rocker, beneath, is seen the head of Nox, represented as a beautiful sleeping female, crowned with a garland of poppies, supported upon bats' wings, and surrounded by the seven planets. The other end, or the back of the head of the cradle, is devoted to the arms of Prince Albert; the shield occupies the centre, and round it, among the arabesque foliage, the six crests of the prince are scattered, with the motto, "Treu und Fest." Below, on the rocker, is discovered a head of Somnus, with closed eyes, and over the chin a whimple, which, on each side, terminates in poppies. In the interior of the head of the cradle, guardian angels are introduced; and above, the royal crown is found embedded in foliage. The friezes, forming the most important parts of the sides of the body of the cradle, are composed of roses, poppies, conventional foliage, butterflies, and birds, while beneath them rise a variety of pinks, studied from nature. The edges and the insides of the rockers are enriched with the insignia of royalty and emblems of repose. In the central north gallery, I. 27, were exhibited a pair of richly-cut crystal glass candelabra, 8 feet high, carrying 15 lights each; the shaft composed of prisms upwards of three feet in length; designed and manufactured by F. and C. Osler; an Axminster carpet, designed by L. Gruner, Esq., manufactured at Glasgow; and a Berlin-wool carpet, executed by one hundred and fifty ladies of Great Britain. The dimensions of this carpet were 30 feet in length and 20 in breadth. The carpet was produced in the following manner:—The pattern, originally designed and painted by the artist, was subdivided into detached squares, which were worked by different ladies, and on their completion the squares have been reunited, so as to complete the design. In the pattern, which consists partly of geometrical, and partly of floral forms, heraldic emblems are also introduced. The initials of the executants are ornamentally arranged, so as to form the external border. The whole design is connected by wreaths or bands of leaves and foliage, the centre group representing the store whence they have been distributed. The carpet was produced under the management of a committee.

X

Prince Albert contributed, on behalf of the Prince of Wales, a Shield presented by the King of Prussia to the Prince of Wales, in commemoration of the baptism of the infant prince, for whom his majesty acted as sponsor. In the centre of the shield is a head of our Saviour. The middle compartment, surrounded by a double line of ornamental work, is divided by a cross into four smaller compartments, which contain emblematic representations of the two Sacraments, Baptism and the Lord's Supper, with their Old Testament types—the opening of the fountain in the rock by Moses, and the fall of manna. At the extremities of the arms of the cross are represented the Evangelists, noting down what they have seen and heard in the Gospels, which are to communicate to all futurity the plan of man's salvation. On the extreme points of the arabesques that rise above the Evangelists, are represented the Christian virtues of Faith, Hope, and Charity, and of Christian Righteousness. Around the entire centre stand in a circle, the twelve Apostles. Peter is seen under Faith represented in the arabesque; on the right and left of him are Philip and Andrew; under Hope is James; on either side are Bartholomew and Simon; John is placed beneath the figure of Charity; on either side are James the Younger and Thomas; under Righteousness is Paul; on the right and left are Matthew and Judas Thaddeus, going forth into the world to teach and to baptise, and to propagate the kingdom of the Redeemer. The relievo which surrounds the edge of the shield, represents the betrayal, the redeeming atonement of Christ, and his resurrection. Another portion represents our Lord's triumphant entry into Jerusalem; a third portion the descent of the Holy Ghost, the preaching of the Gospel, and the formation of the Church. The fourth and principal compartment contains an allegorical representation of the birth of the Prince of Wales and of the visit of the King of Prussia, and welcomed by his Royal Highness Prince Albert and the Duke of Wellington: a knight of St. George being represented on the beach standing upon a dragon. The shield has been denominated the Buckler of Faith.

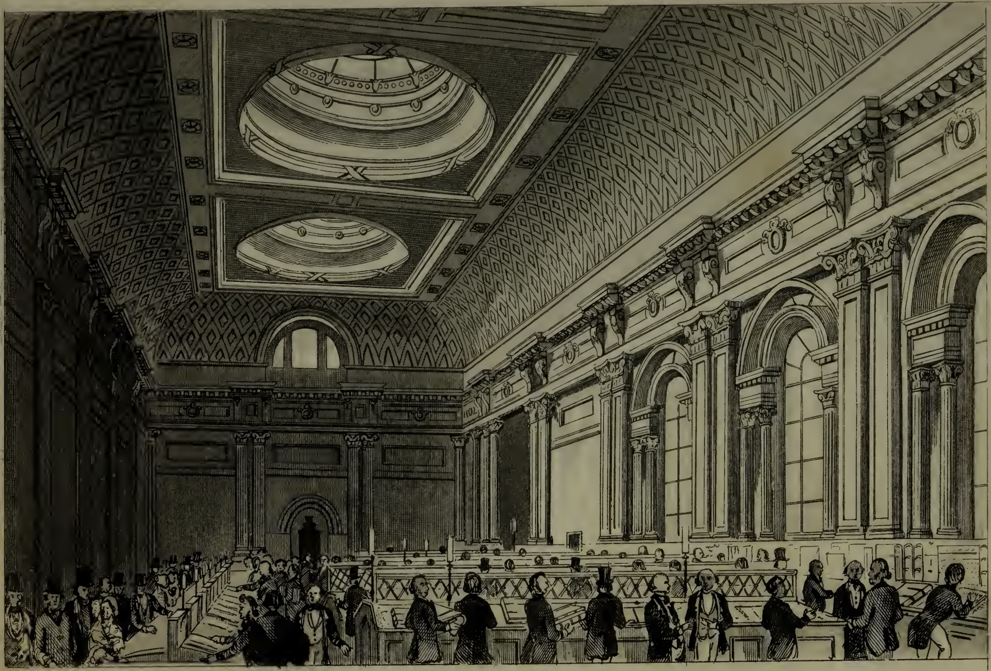
The entire portion of the ground-floor, and the greater part of the galleries, from the eastern extremity of the edifice to the transepts, were appropriated to foreign works and manufactures; the entire space west of the transepts was occupied with the productions of the mother-country and the colonies. The Knightsbridge, or eastern end of the edifice, conducted to the American portion of the nave. The contributions of America which were most admired, were exquisite statuary, especially the figures of the Wounded Indian Warrior, the Boy with a Shell, and the Greek Slave. The sculptor of the last two named was Hiram Power. As a work of art, the Greek Slave was universally admired, and its popularity is best proved by the numerous engravings and casts taken from it, and which have familiarised all Europe with this noble memento of American genius. Continuing our promenade through the main east avenue, which abounded with works of art, a colossal Bavarian Lion, 15 feet long and 9 feet high, commanded attention, from the clearness and beauty of its casting. It formed one of the four destined to ornament the summit of an arch leading into Munich. Adjacent was a group in zinc bronze, representing an Amazon on Horseback attacked by a Tiger, designed after a model by Kiss, of Berlin, and it was considered by many the finest modern group of European statuary. The noble stained glass window from Milan, representing Dante, and giving a visible shape to some of his ideas, by Bertini, was a splendid specimen of that art which some have declared to be among the lost arts, but which we could scarcely credit on witnessing the beautiful specimen before us. Passing by several fine groups of statuary, among which a colossal representation of St. Michael and the Dragon, in plaster, by Du Seigneur, a French artist, deserves honourable mention; the next striking object beheld was the Shield of Faith, already described among the royal contributions: and its immediate neighbour was the costly Koh-i-Noor, or Mountain of Light Diamond, also previously named.

The east avenue was divided from the main west avenue by the transept, between which Osler's beautiful Crystal Fountain, manufactured of the finest flint-glass, daily threw up its beautiful jets, resembling in their brilliance an infinity of silvery streams. The visitors to the Exhibition seemed to have a particular regard for this fountain, which was to them a kind of Mecca, to which a pilgrimage was indispensable. From the many people, who, standing round its margin, imbibed with all the zeal of incipient teetotalism its limpid and refreshing fluid, one might have

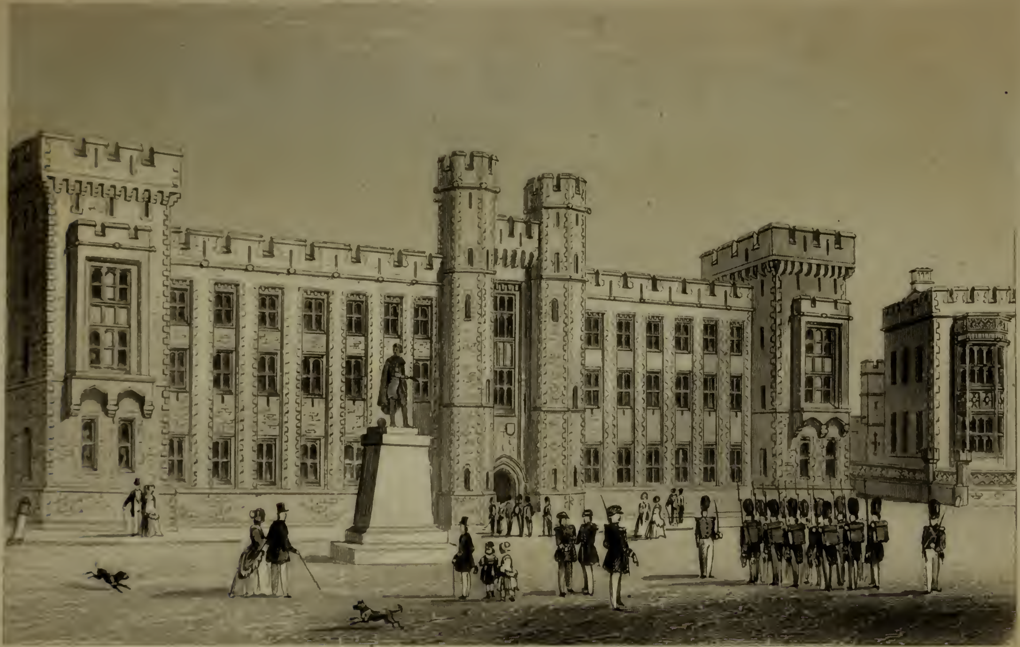


THE EGYPTIAN HALL,

MANSION HOUSE

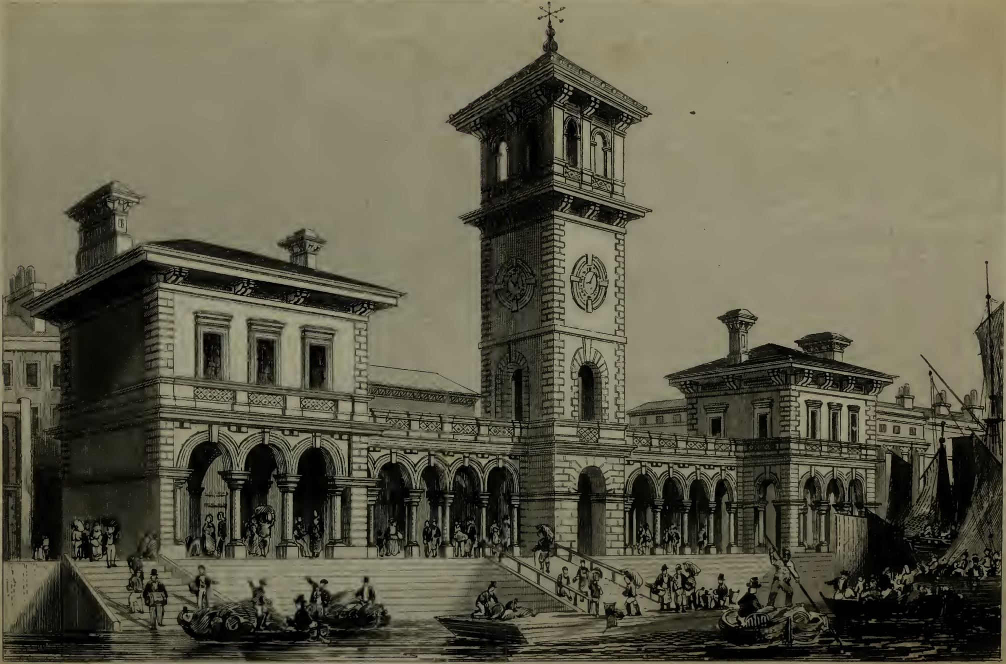


THE PRIVATE BANKING DEPARTMENT
BANK OF ENGLAND



WELLINGTON BARRACKS

& THE TOWER OF LONDON



BILLINSGATE MARKET

deemed its waters a panacea for all "the thousand natural ills which flesh is heir to." It also became notable as a trysting place where lovers might meet, and as a landmark, by hovering near which, those who were lost, or scattered from their friends amid the human billows, might again be found and restored to the anxious searchers.

The transepts presented magnificent specimens of the sculpture of Lough, Baily, McDowell, Weeks, and other eminent statuaries; an ornamental fountain of cast-iron (bronzed), from the Coalbrook-dale Company, and other objects of art. Blended with these, the mighty elm-trees, tropical plants, and flowers in bloom in the north and south transepts, imparted to this section of the building an air of unequalled taste and grandeur.

The main west avenue exhibited British manufactures and scientific productions. Its eastern end was appropriately ornamented with a rich collection of Spitalfields silks, the brilliant colours of which harmonized well with the decorative character of the building. Immense piles of Canadian and Van Dieman's-land timber presented their towering proportions; then monumental brasses, and other church ornaments, offered an attractive sight to the antiquary; and numerous models, among which those of the interior of Her Majesty's-theatre, of the town and docks of Liverpool, of the Plymouth Breakwater, of the wrought iron bar chain suspension-bridge erected by Vignoles, the English engineer, at Kieff in Russia; and the model of the Britannia tubular-bridge, illustrated well the architectural and engineering capabilities of England. Next were seen colossal statues of those eminent lawyers, Lords Eldon and Stowell, designed by the late Musgrave Watson, and each wrought out of a single block of marble, the weight of the whole being twenty tons. The Coalbrook-dale Company exhibited an ornamental rustic dome of cast-iron, bronzed; it contained an iron casting of the Eagle Slayer, and was surmounted by a statuette of Æolus. Never before was so elegant a design for a summer or green-house submitted to public notice. At the western extremity of this avenue a specimen of plate glass, considered to be the largest ever manufactured, was contributed from the works of the Thames Plate Glass Company.

Having described some of the most prominent objects in the nave or main avenues of the building, we must now more closely generalize our analysis of the contents of the Exhibition. The productions of the United Kingdom were distributed in four sections, and subdivided into thirty classes. Section I. comprehended four classes, viz. —Class 1, on the south side, including mining and mineral products; class 2, chemical and pharmaceutical products, placed in the south gallery; which was also appropriated to class 3, substances used as food; and class 4, vegetable and animal substances used in manufactures. Under Section II. classes 5 to 10 inclusive were arranged. Class 5, comprised machines for direct use, including carriages, railway and marine mechanism; class 6, manufacturing machines and tools; class 7, chiefly in the north gallery, civil engineering, architecture, and building contrivances; class 8, in the west-end gallery and south-west gallery, naval architecture, military engineering, guns, weapons, &c.; class 9, on the south side, agricultural and horticultural machines and implements; and class 10, philosophical, musical, horological, and surgical instruments. Section III., extended from class 11 to 30. Class 11 presented every variety of cotton; class 12 and 15, woollen and worsted, mixed fabrics, including shawls; class 13, south and south transept galleries, silk and velvet; class 14, flax and hemp; class 16, leather, saddlery, and harness, skins, furs, and hair; class 17, paper, printing, and bookbinding; class 18, woven, felted, and laid fabrics, dyed and printed; class 19, in the south central gallery, tapestry, floor-cloths, lace, and embroidery; class 20, in the central south, and south transept galleries, articles of clothing; class 21, in the north gallery, cutlery, edge and hand tools; class 22, general hardware; class

23, in the south gallery, works in precious metals, jewellery, &c.; class 24, in the central north gallery, glass; class 25, in the central north gallery, and north transept gallery, china, porcelain, and earthenware; class 26, furniture, upholstery, paper-hangings, papier-maché, and japanned goods; class 27, manufactures in mineral substances; class 28, manufactures from animal and vegetable substances, not being woven or felted; and class 29, miscellaneous manufactures and small wares. Section IV. which only included class 30, presented a rare and valuable collection of sculpture, models, and plastic art, mosaics, enamels, medals, and other works of art, distributed in those parts of the areas, called the Fine Art Court, and the Sculpture Court.

Numerous contributions were also sent from the following British colonies and islands:—East Indies, Indian Archipelago; Jersey and Guernsey; Ceylon; Ionian Islands; Malta; Cape of Good Hope and Natal; West Coast of Africa; Canada; Nova Scotia; Newfoundland; New Brunswick; St. Helena; Mauritius, &c.; St. Domingo; Grenada; Montserrat; Jamaica; St. Kitt's; Barbadoes; Antigua; British Guiana; Bahamas; Trinidad; Falkland Islands; Bermudas; South Australia; Western Australia; New Zealand; New South Wales; Van Dieman's Land; Labuan, Borneo, &c.; and the Gold Coast and Ashantee.

The foreign states that contributed emphatically to render the Exhibition an Exhibition of the Industry of *all* Nations, were:—the United States of America; Austria; Belgium; Brazil; Chili; China; Denmark; Egypt; France and Algiers; Germany; including the following states of the Zollverein:—Prussia, Baden, and United States of Northern Germany; Provinces of Brandenburgh, Silesia, Posen, and Pomerania; Grand Duchy of Baden; Southern parts of the West Provinces of Prussia and Electoral Hesse; Provinces of Prussia and Lithuania; northern parts of Electoral Hesse, and of the Prussian West Provinces; Principality of Lippe; Grand Duchy of

Saxony, Prussian Saxony, Brunswick, Anhalt, and States of Thuringia:—Bavaria; Saxony; Wurtemburg; Frankfort-on-the-Maine; Grand Duchy of Hesse-Darmstadt; Luxemburgh; Nassau; Greece; Hamburgh; Hanover; Lubeck; Mecklenburg-Strelitz; Mecklenburg-Schwerin; Mexico; Netherlands; New Granada; Oldenburg; Persia; Peru; Portugal and Madeira; Rome; Russia; Sardinia, Society Islands; Spain; Sweden and Norway; Switzerland; Tunis; and Tuscany.

The foreign courts and galleries stretching along the north side from east to west to the transept, and returning by the south side of the building, from west to east, were resplendent with the contributions of our continental neighbours. The Russian court, adjoining the American departments, abounded in beautiful works of Malachite stone, out of which many gorgeous articles of furniture were wrought, whereof two folding-doors, composed of many thousand pieces, and of the estimated worth of £9,000, deserve especial mention. The diamonds and other jewels of the imperial court, enclosed in a glass case, and under the guardian care of a policeman, were among the finest specimens of precious stones in the Exhibition. The Zollverein department was affluent in matchless works of art, and among the most costly *matériel* from Vienna were some elaborately-carved articles of furniture, of which a carved book-case and bedstead were presents to the queen of England. France sent many magnificent illustrations of her art and industry to the Crystal Palace, including exquisitely painted Sevres china and Gobelins tapestry, displaying all the rich colouring of the *chef-d'œuvres* of Claude, oxidised silver work, and artificial flowers made from cambric, all ranking under the head of the choicest *vertu*. Genoa was represented by superb silks and velvet; Rome by mosaics, cameos, and inlaid marble tables; and Spain by the glittering jewels of her most Christian Majesty, Donna Maria da Gloria, a table of inlaid wood, said to have been composed of 3,000,000 pieces, the model of a bull-fight, Toledo swords, so pliable that they are inserted in a case wreathed like a serpent; and a slab from the Alhambra. Turkey and Greece were noted for their rich embroideries. China sent specimens of porcelain manufactures; that mysterious luxury, edible birds' nests; tea, unadulterated either by Chinese or European rogues, and a gay assortment of silks and satins; and Tunis exhibited fine embroidered fabrics, carpets, and magnificent saddles, and saddle-cloths. Some of the American productions were remarkable for their ingenuity, among which may be named chairs which adapted themselves to any position of the body; and a piano, the movement of which also played a violin. The Brussels lace of Belgium was a centre of attraction to the fair sex, the thread of which these specimens were composed being so fine, that it could not be untied (it was stated) in any current of air, as its continuity would be destroyed. "Switzerland showed a watch the size of a groat, and a pistol so small that a microscope was required to perceive its delicate workmanship. Among the watches that were here exhibited, one was constructed to go for a twelvemonth without being wound up. There were some chronometers not more than an inch in diameter."

The contributions of the East India Company were most gorgeous; and a tent, furnished in the eastern style with carpets, and shawls of gold and silver leaves, other valuable articles, and a cushion, on which rested three crowns belonging to tributary princes. Elaborately carved bedsteads, thrones of state, palanquins and chairs used by the native princes, occupied the large court; and adjacent to the main avenue was a gilded cage, filled with gold and silver work, and jewels of immense worth. Malta displayed some silver filagree work, which was "beautiful exceedingly."

The industrial contributions of "Old England" are no less deserving of perpetuation, although, from their being to our readers "familiar as household words," a very summary record of them will suffice.

The paper manufactures were eminently interesting;

among them may be named an enormous specimen sheet 2,500 yards long and 46 inches wide, from the works of Messrs. Spicer; and the case of the British and Foreign Bible Society, in which were specimens of 165 books in different languages, from 170 versions of the Holy Scriptures. In the court appropriated to machinery at rest, were the great hydraulic press employed to raise the tubes of the Britannia Bridge, and several steam engines for marine navigation; one of these by Boulton and Watt, was of 700 horse power, and was designed to work a screw. In another court devoted to machinery in motion, were machines and models, all acting under the influence of steam, and the arts of Manchester were here literally brought home to the Londoners' own doors. Among the machinery were a Jacquard power-loom, a silk-loom, flax-spinning and weaving machines, rope-spinning machines, lace machines, and a centrifugal pump discharging from a height of 20 feet, 26 tons of water every minute. The whole process of cotton-spinning was exhibited in a chamber contiguous to the machinery court. Parallel with these rooms was a large hall, containing numerious locomotive conveyances of improved construction, such as railway carriages, omnibuses delightfully convenient, but almost too costly ever to become general, &c. &c. To lovers of sweet sounds, musical instruments of every description, especially pianofortes, presented a great centre of attraction. Broadwood, Collard, Stodart, Erard, and other eminent makers, here contested for the palm of superiority; and we must not omit to mention Mott's *multum in parvo* pianoforte, an ingeniously constructed instrument, uniting in itself the attributes of the organ, the grand pianoforte, the echo, and wind instruments.

Much notice was attracted by a carpet of variegated design, worked by Miss Farncomb (Lady Mayoresss in 1850), and 150 ladies of Great Britain, presented to and exhibited by Her Majesty. The display of carpets was singularly rich, presenting as it did not merely comfortable coverings for our floors, but evidence of great artistic skill.

The lace, the tapestry, the silks, and other fabrics, were of most costly appearance, and the skill of our manufacturers was advantageously exhibited in the beautiful Paisley shawls, equalling in their texture and design the once unrivalled fabrics of India. To this portion of the Exhibition, Regent-street contributed in a material degree; the Messrs. Holmes and Co., justly famed for their unequalled shawl establishment, among other gorgeous contributions, sent in a royal shawl cloak, manufactured at Paisley, being in fact a Cashmere shawl in the shape of a cloak; the deep border was of fanciful design, worked in a variety of glittering hues. That part forming the middle of the shawl, but the upper part of the cloak, was a ground of malachite green, scattered over with light fanciful arabesque, and the garment was lined with velvet-coloured satin, the hood being removable at pleasure; the cloak in its absence became an elegant shawl. It will interest our fair readers to know that this novel but graceful garment, not only won the admiration, but was liberally patronised by the Queen. In the hardware court, among other beautiful specimens, were grates from Sheffield, the first fruits we are told of the Government Schools of Design; and the furniture court contained magnificent mirrors, exquisite carvings, and other household objects of splendour.

The Potteries contributed in no slight degree to the *coup d'œil* of the Crystal Palace. The articles supplied by Mr. Alderman Copeland, M.P., of New Bond-street, and Stoke-upon-Trent, the metropolis of the Staffordshire Potteries, were truly noble specimens of art, and were such as to bear comparison with the best productions of Sèvres and Dresden. Perhaps the *chef d'œuvre* of Mr. Copeland's collection was an exquisite statuette of Bacchus and Ino, after Foley, R.A., which presented all the softness and expression of marble, and which for beautiful expression would reflect honour on the most accomplished sculptor. The dove tazza, a superb ornament, was worked in fine porcelain, the doves from the celebrated doves of the capitol, together with the festoons of flowers and the embossment richly gilt. A statuette of Sappho, from the original by Mr. Theed, an able artist, is marked by much grace; this figure is the largest yet attempted in this style of art manufacture, being about 34 inches high. Another classical object was a tazza in the Italian style, a sort of water-bottle of antique form, on the surface of which were raised embellishments of jewelled cameos. In addition to these, several rare specimens of fine crystal glass, cut and engraved, were exhibited from the same works. From Wedgwood's establishment at Etruria, in Staffordshire, numerous classic vases, probably surpassing the works of ancient art, and some beautiful statuettes of Venus and of Cupid, were displayed; Alcock, of Burslem, contributed porcelain work, after the design of our old friend Alfred Crowquill; and Minton and Co., among other contributions, forwarded some fine encaustic tiles resembling the rare tesselated pavements which have been found in the course of excavation, in many parts of England.

The works in precious metals, as illustrating the very high degree of perfection to which art has attained, through their medium, merit especial notice. A magnificent vase of gold from the laboratory of Messrs. Watherston and Brogden, of Covent-garden, was a most prominent object. The design was by Mr. Alfred Brown; the group surmounting the cover symbolised the United Kingdom, by the figures of Britannia, Scotia, and Hibernia; around the edge of the cup were four heads, emblematic of the several quarters of the globe, in all of which Great Britain has possessions; beneath these were festoons of diamonds, representing the rose, shamrock and thistle, and surrounding the body of the vase were relievos which pourtrayed the ancient progenitors of Britain; and still lower, two figures of Fame crowning England's most renowned warriors, poets, and men of science; while on the lower part of the cup, as an expression of British character, were the figures of Truth, Prudence, Industry, and Fortitude. The vase, which weighed 95 ounces, was richly decorated with diamonds, pearls, rubies, carbuncles, sapphires, and emeralds, relieved by a cinque-cento ornamental ground in enamel. It is almost superfluous to say that this work, rare in design and execution, received at the general award a prize of high order.

Among the gems in this department of the Exhibition, was a superb emblematical brooch in the style of the jewels of the cinque-cento period. It comprehended the figure of Britannia standing on a shell within a gothic niche, enriched with columns of carbuncles, and beneath was a winged dragon, from which three pearl drops were suspended. This unique brooch, composed of 908 diamonds and 15 rubies, gained the prize for its superior workmanship in the setting of stones. It issued from the manufactory of Messrs. Gass, of Regent-street, as did also a silver gauntlet-bracelet, executed in the ancient art of Niello, after an original design by D. Maclise, R.A., comprehending three subjects, namely, —the promised gift, the bracelet ordered, and its presentation, which was honourably mentioned by the committee. Mr. Hope, M.P., exhibited a blue diamond weighing 177 grains, mounted as a medallion, and surrounded with brilliants, supposed, from its size and colour, to be unique. Among the most admired contributions of Hancock, of Bruton-street, who received a council medal for the originality and taste of his productions, were three groups exquisitely modelled in silver; of these, the first represented Robin Hood contesting for the golden arrow, and the second (modelled by Baron Marrochetti, the eminent sculptor,) portrayed the death of that faithful adherent of Charles I., Lord Francis Villiers, at Kingston, in 1648, falling beneath the weapons of Cromwell's soldiers: both of these were Goodwood prizes, the first being won by Lord Stanley, and the second by Viscount Clifden. The third group was a spirited delineation of the conflict between Guy, Earl of Warwick, and the dragon, designed by Macarthy, and constituted the Warwick prize, gained by the Marquis of Exeter. Not only the general grouping, but the animated character of the figures, men and animals, in these fine works of art, were most effective. The stand of Hunt and Roskell, of Bond-street, contained many costly articles, among which was a shield composed of silver and iron. This fine specimen of art and embossing was dedicated to Shakspere, Milton, and Newton, and enriched with numerous figures characteristic of the peculiar genius of that immortal trio. Messrs. Garrard, of the Haymarket, also exhibited some fine specimens of gold and silver plate, and some magnificent adaptations of jewellery. Time was very efficiently represented by an unequalled display of watches, clocks, chronometers, and other horological instruments. Among these, Bennett, of Cheapside, exhibited several highly finished specimens of each class of time-keeper. In chronometers it has always been admitted that the English have stood pre-eminent. The Exhibition, in bringing from Paris, Geneva, and even from Norway, similar instruments, only served to confirm this well-known fact. What the chronometer does for nautical purposes, the regulator accomplishes for the astronomer and others, to whom perfect time is absolutely requisite. The chief drawback to the general use of this beautiful machine, has been the great cost of so extremely minute a production. This the exhibitor has endeavoured to meet by reducing the bulk of the work, and giving a pendulum of the most approved construction, to beat half instead of whole seconds, an arrangement which will bring this timekeeper within the reach of railway-stations, public halls, and offices with which time is a desideratum. He also produced a model watch on a magnificent scale, to show the most compact form of the modern watch, with all the recent improvements. In ornamental clocks the French have hitherto held the first rank, but even in this, Mr. Bennett was not excelled, and prepared an elaborately carved specimen in oak, which proves that our artists can apply their talents to this branch of manufacture with equal success. In the only part of the chronometer where there has been any defect, Mr. Loseby applied mercury as an agent of compensation, with great effect. A most important desideratum for the regulator, is a perfect detachment of the pendulum. To this Mr. Gowland has devoted much attention, and the result was a new mode of suspension and impulse. The large turret clock in the west avenue was constructed after a design of Mr. Dennison, by Mr. Dent, who also exhibited a superb collection of watches and chronometers. Payne, of Bond-street, contributed a musical chime-clock of most harmonious intonation, the chimes being produced by the action of eight musical springs, and the chiming finished, the hour was tolled with the precision and solemnity of a cathedral bell.

An experiment of a striking character connected with the Exhibition was, effecting an almost uniformity of temperature within the building. For this purpose, about 40 of Bennett's standard thermometers were fixed at various points, the reading of which was taken at frequent intervals during the day. This enabled the authorities to regulate the louvres and ventilators, and so preserved a degree of comfort, without which, in the height of summer, 60,000 people could not have assembled together, even under the capacious roof of the Crystal Palace.

Space will not permit us to enter further into detail of the varied and costly contributions to the Crystal Palace, which, it has justly been said, presented, in the zenith of its glory, the appearance of the most dazzling of eastern pavilions, and the most splendid of grand conservatories, each magnified a thousand times; with these impressions, the reader must blend that of the most sumptuous of palaces—that of the vastest of museums and sculpture galleries—that of the richest and busiest of bazaars: he must try to people this creation of his fancy with the distinguished men of all nations, wearing every garb and speaking all languages. In this age, which has witnessed so many grand discoveries, "the assemblage of the industry of all nations, and the people of all nations, in the island whose ships bear the products of the earth to and from every port—whose arts, imitative at first, are now models of every form of labour—whose language and literature are spreading over vast regions, compared with which her area is but a speck on the globe—such an assemblage appears to us a holy tribute to the Parent of Industry, and of all good.''*

CLOSE OF THE EXHIBITION.

On the 11th of October, 1851, the brilliant career of the Great Exhibition closed, and the public took their last farewell of its splendours, after having revelled in its beautiful courts for the period of five months and eleven days. The first sign of its dissolution was given by Osler's crystal fountain. Just before five o'clock struck, the feathery jet of water from its summit suddenly ceased, and the silence of the vast assemblage became deeper and more intense. The moment at last came. Mr. Belshaw appeared at the west corner of the transept-gallery on the south side, bearing a large red flag in his hand. This he displayed as the clock struck, and instantly all the organs in the building were hurling into the air the well-known notes of the National Anthem, and to the solemn silence of expectancy succeeded a volume of sound in which the voices of the people were heartily joined.

In the gallery immediately over the Indian department, Mr. Dilke presented himself, bearing a red flag, on which was inscribed,—

"Our revels now are ended: these our actors,
As I foretold you, were all spirits, and
Are melted into air, into thin air.
And, like the baseless fabric of this vision,
The cloud-capped towers, the gorgeous palaces,
The solemn temples, the great globe itself,—
Yea, all which it inherit, shall dissolve,
And, like this unsubstantial pageant faded,
Leave not a wrack behind."

* Dickens.

A minute or two was allowed to elapse before the fatal signal was given. At last it came, and a perfect storm of bell-peals broke over the building.

On the following Monday and Tuesday (October 13–14,) the admissions were confined exclusively to the exhibitors, each of whom were allowed to pass in two friends, and no money was taken at the doors. On the last day her Majesty paid her closing visit to the Crystal Palace, and at 12 o'clock Prince Albert appeared on the platform, accompanied by the leading members of the royal commission. Soon afterwards Viscount Canning, president of the council of chairmen of the juries, read the report of the several juries, in the course of which he stated that 2,918 prize medals and 170 council medals had been awarded. Prince Albert made an able reply, closing his speech in the following words—"I cannot refrain from remarking, with heartfelt pleasure, the singular harmony which has prevailed amongst the eminent men representing so many national interests—a harmony which cannot end with the event which produced it. Let us receive it as an auspicious omen for the future; and while we return our humble and hearty thanks to Almighty God for the blessing He has vouchsafed to our labours, let us all earnestly pray that that Divine Providence which has so benignantly watched over and shielded this illustration of Nature's productions, conceived by human intellect and fashioned by human skill, may still protect us, and may grant that this interchange of knowledge, resulting from the meeting of enlightened people in friendly rivalry, may be dispersed far and wide over distant lands; and thus, by showing our mutual dependence upon each other, be a happy means of promoting unity among nations, and peace and good-will among the various races of mankind." The Bishop of London then delivered an appropriate thanksgiving, which was followed by the Hallelujah Chorus, after which Prince Albert and his friends withdrew. Her Majesty retired before noon, taking no part in the closing ceremony of this grand industrial pageant.

STATISTICS OF THE EXHIBITION.

In the month of May, 734,782 visits were paid to the building; in June, 1,133,116; in July, 1,314,176; in August, 1,023,435; in September, 1,155,240; and in the first 11 days of October, 841,107, making a total of 6,201,856. The greatest number of people ascertained to have been in the building at any one time, was at two o'clock on the 7th of October, when 92,000 persons were present. On the same day the numer of visitors reached its *maximum*, and was 109,915.

According to the return of Mr. W. Murray, four hundred and sixty-six schools visited the building, and of these Christ's Hospital sent the largest number, amounting to 900. On the 14th of July there were 15 schools present, and 1,300 children; on the 30th, 13, and on the 6th of August, 19. On the 21st, 15 schools, and 1,022 children; on the 18th of September, 33 schools, and 2,729 children; on the 25th, 18 schools, and 1,374 children; on the 2nd of October, 25 schools, and 1,427 children; on the 8th of October, 23 schools, and 1,312 children. The return includes a list of 23 parties, chiefly agricultural labourers, and including 7,758 persons, sent up from the country by private benevolence.

The largest amount taken at the doors on any of the five-shilling days was £5,078, on the 24th of May. The greatest half-crown day was the 11th of October, when £4,845 13*s*. 6*d*. was received. The greatest shilling day was the 7th of October, when the sum taken amounted to £5,233 3*s*. In May the highest receipts were on the 24th, when upwards of £5,000 was taken, the lowest being the pound days. In June the greatest was a shilling day, when upwards of £3,000 was taken; the lowest being the first shilling day. In July, the highest (a half-crown day) was the 18th, when nearly £4,000 was received; the lowest being the 19th, a five-shilling day. During the month of August the harvest operations told visibly on the receipts, the greatest being on the 5th, a shilling day, when more than £3,000 was taken, and the lowest being on the 2nd and the 30th. During the month of September the average take was still smaller, but the 29th and 30th were great shilling days, and brought in £3,000 each.

Of the money received at the doors, £275,000 was in silver, and £81,000 in gold. The weight of the silver coin so taken (at the rate of 28lbs. per £100) would be 35 tons, and its bulk 900 cubic feet! The following are the total receipts arising from the various sources of income in connexion with the Exhibition:—Received at the doors, £356,757 12*s.*; season tickets, £67,000; subscriptions in aid, £67,298 11*s.* 4*d.*; refreshment contract, £5,500; catalogue contract, £3,200; retiring-rooms, &c., £3,350 13*s.*; interest upon Exchequer bills, £20,566 12*s.* 4*d.*—Total, £523,673 8*s.* 8*d.*

Mr. Cubitt, Mr. Fox, and Mr. Paxton, the contractors of the Crystal Palace, severally received from her Majesty, on the 23rd of October, the honour of knighthood in acknowledgment of their eminent services.

Our task is done. We have noted down the leading features of London, and have endeavoured to show the accumulative power, influence, wealth, and extent which it has acquired in the course of successive centuries. Such is the magnitude and merit of the subject which we have attempted to sketch, that it forms an inexhaustible theme for the writer; that voluminous details might, in connexion with it, be discussed with interest: but, in order to render our book not only portable, but easy of perusal and reference, we have been compelled to satisfy ourselves—and, we trust, our readers—with a tolerably comprehensive bird's-eye view of the metropolis and its adjuncts. London, one of the most venerable capitals in the world, has been gradually progressing from barbaric darkness to the highest points of refinement and civilization. Not to go back to those remote times when our unsophisticated ancestors developed tastes very similar to those displayed by the Ojibbeway Indians lately exhibited before the wondering eyes of their polished fellow-creatures, and when, in the absence of elegant apparel, they were well pleased to paint their skin with rainbow hues, let us see what London was eighteen hundred years ago. Tacitus, who is the first Roman author by whom mention of London is made, writing in the year 52, says that "London is so called from its situation, and Augusta from its splendour." He adds, that it was then famous for its merchants; but notwithstanding this fact, it occupied no higher rank than a Roman colony. The Roman colony of 52 has risen to be, in 1852, the empress city of the world—the civic heart whence laws governing both hemispheres are promulgated; and has achieved a fame, compared with which that of Rome, in its mightiest days, was insignificant and puny. Every year furnishes new materials to the historian; and all relating to the past, or present, or future prospects of the great city, must possess a certain degree of interest. Franklin asks—"Who would be without a history of his own country?" In a similar vein, may we not enquire—"Who would willingly remain ignorant of the great events, of the enterprising spirits, and of those magnificent structures, which have rendered London not only the centre of the world's commerce, but the chief human temple of civilization?"

THE END.

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